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A  
CORRECT COPY  
OF THE  
EVIDENCE  
ON THE  
NORWICH PETITION,  
BY WHICH THE  
ELECTION  
OF THE

HONOURABLE HENRY HOBART  
was declared VOID.

*English Parliament*

Taken Verbatim, as delivered before the Honourable  
COMMITTEE of the House of Commons, appointed  
to try the Merits of that Petition.

*[Proceedings - 16]*

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And by Messrs. G. G. J. and J. Robinson, Pater-noster-Row,  
London. 1787.



CORRECT COPY

EVIDENCE

NORWICH PETITION

BY WHICH THE



FILED

HENRY MORANT

THIS DEED VOID

As witness at London the 10th day of January 1841

Witness my hand and seal at London the 10th day of January 1841

John Lubbock Esq. Secretary to the British Museum

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# EVIDENCE

## ON THE NORWICH ELECTION.

Jovis, 15<sup>o</sup> Die Feb. 1787.

Names of the COMMITTEE appointed to try and determine the Merits of the Petitions complaining of an undue Election and Return for the CITY of NORWICH.

Mr. Secretary at War	James Martin, Esq.
(Sir Geo. Yonge)	Alexander Brodie, Esq.
Patrick Hume, Esq.	Mark Pringle, Esq.
Hon. Dudley Ryder	Lord Viscount Bayham
John Baring, Esq.	George Skene, Esq.
Paul Orchard, Esq.	John Galley Knight, Esq.
William Drake, jun. Esq.	Col. William Wemys
George Dempster, Esq.	} Nominees.
Henry Addington, Esq.	

Mr. Secretary at War called to the chair.—Adjourned.

Veneris 16<sup>o</sup> Die Feb. 1787.

Committee on Norwich Election, met.

Counsel for the Petition of Sir Thomas Beevor,  
Mr. Piggot. Mr. Garrow.

Counsel for the Petition of the Electors,  
Mr. Dallas. Agent, Mr. Shawe.

B

Counsel



Counsel for Mr. Hobart the Sitting Member,  
 Mr. Partridge. Mr. Douglas.  
 Agent, Mr. Troward.

The Petition of Sir Thomas Beever was read, and also that of the Electors.

Last determination of the House respecting the right of election, 12th March, 1701, read.

Standing order of the House for restraining the Counsel from controverting it, read.

Mr. Piggott opens the case of Sir Thomas Beever.

States the numbers on the poll to have been thus :

Mr. Hobart	-	-	-	-	1450
Sir Thomas Beever	-	-	-	-	1383
					<hr/>
Majority for Mr. Hobart	-	-	-	-	67

Mean to disqualify of Mr. Hobart's Voters, the following numbers; 62 as not being "such Freemen only of the said city as are entered in the books" according to the last determination.

Will also disqualify 24, who voted for Freeholds, as not being assessed to the land-tax.

Will disqualify 11, who voted as Freeholders, who either had not Freeholds, or at least had them not 12 months previous to the election.

Will disqualify 61, as being persons who received parish relief within 12 months previous to the election.

Will disqualify 31, who were in the infirmary or work-houses.

Will disqualify four, as being in Doughty's Hospital, and 10 in the Great Hospital.

Will disqualify 10, who voted as Minor Canons, Lay Clerks, and Vergers.

Minor Canons are Ecclesiastics—the others, not—they voted as Freeholders, because they reside in certain houses allotted to them by the Dean and Chapter—the freehold is in the Dean and Chapter, not in the Voters.

Will disqualify 4, as having voted twice.

Will disqualify 12, who received alms or charity at Yarmouth.

Will object to 33, as having been individually corrupted opens a general case of bribery and corruption against Mr. Hobart.

Proceed to evidence.

ELISHA DU HAGUE sworn.

I am Clerk of the Peace at Norwich—I have the poll books of the last election—they were delivered to me by the Under Sheriff. (produces 10 poll books)

They are in the same state as he delivered them to me—I never opened them.

There are two booths at the election at Norwich—five desks in each booth, I think—the name of the separate Candidates are over the particular booth—people may vote at either—they generally bring up their own Voters to their own booths—they sometimes vote cross—the books are marked on the outside to which Candidates booth they belonged.—Withdrew.

WILLIAM DEWING sworn, to the 62 not being entered on the books.

I am Chamberlain—I keep the books in which the entries of Freemens names are made—I have the books here—I had a list of Voters delivered me, and I have searched and found some who were free, and some not—I have marked on the list those whose Freedoms I found, I found the same name on the book—I mean, when I have found different descriptions, I have noted it—I can speak positively as to the whole list from 1752, the names are entered very irregularly till then; but since, they are entered differently, and more regularly, and the search is more easily made—I have the books—(produces them)

Have you found the entry of James Ainsworth, shoemaker, St. Lawrence?

No James Ainsworth at all for upwards of 60 years back, I am sure, in this book.

Have you found Thomas Bushele, worsted-weaver, Dover?

I have found Thomas Bushele, made free 26th August, 1783—they do not enter as to parishes or places, only as to trades, or as to 'prentices—Bushele is entered on the book, Thomas Bushele, worsted-weaver, son of Peter Bushele, worsted-weaver.

Do you find George Burrell?

Yes—George Burrell, worsted-weaver, 30th Aug. 1783, son of George.

Do you find John Buck, miller, St. Paul?

I find no John Buck, miller, but I do John Buck, gardener, sworn 24th Feb. 1780.

Do you find John Barrett, gardener, St. John's, Finberhill?—No.

Have you found Richard Burges, labourer, Aylsham?  
No.

Do you find John Burrige, yeoman, Yarmouth?

No; I find John Burrige, hotprester, made free 15th Jan. 1731.

Do you find Richard Blyth, worsted-weaver, London?  
No.

Do you find Edmund Broome, linen-draper, Hay-market, London?

I find Edmund Broom, worsted-weaver, sworn 20th June 1763.

Do you find Thomas Blake, school-master, London?  
No.

Do you find Howlett Chambers, husbandman, St. Martin's at Oak?—No.

Do you find Joshua Clapperson, baker, North Walsham?—No.

Do you find Charles Cooper, worsted-weaver, Pockthorpe?—No.

Do you find Jonas Cunningham, baker, Bungay?

I find Jonah Cunningham, baker, sworn 21 Sept. 1749, Jonah Cunningham, baker, apprentice to Richard Batch, baker.

Do you find David Dady, worsted-weaver, St. Michael's Cossland?—No.

Do you find George Doman, stone-mason, St. Edmunds?

Yes; sworn 10th Feb. 1781, son of John Doman, woolcomber.

Do you find James Dye, merchant, Radcliffe Highway?

No; but I find James Day, fishmonger, sworn 14th Dec. 1776; and another James Day, worsted-weaver, sworn 7th Oct. 1752.

Do you find William Dew, cabinet-maker, London?  
No.

Do you find William Elden, sailor, Chatham?—No.

Do you find William Earl, worsted-weaver, St. Andrews?

I find W. Earl, worsted-weaver, sworn 19th June, 1775, an apprentice to William Earl, worsted-weaver.

Do you find Martin Everit, worsted-weaver, Pockthorpe?  
No.

Do you find William Ferra, barber, Pulham?

I find William Ferra, baker, son of William Ferra, baker, 30th Sept. 1780.

Do you find Philip French, worsted-weaver, Edingthorpe?

I find William French, sworn 10th May, 1760, as worsted-weaver,

Do



Do you find Benjamin Hugman, tanner, Halesworth?

I find Benjamin Hughman, taylor, sworn 3d May, 1747, apprentice to John Emmatt.

Do you find James Hodds, gentleman, London?

I find James Hodds, cordwainer, sworn 24th Feb. 1761, apprentice to Francis Neave, cordwainer.

Do you find Daniel Howse, servant, London?—No.

Do you find Robert John, worsted-weaver, St. John Sepulchre?—No.

Do you find James Jermy, shopkeeper, Southwark?—No.

Do you find Thomas Knights, worsted-weaver, St. Edmunds?

I find him sworn 27th Sept. 1752, Thomas Knights, worsted-weaver, son of Nathaniel Knights.

Do you find Samuel Kirby, worsted-weaver, St. James?

I find Samuel Kirby, worsted-weaver, sworn 12th April, 1740, son of Timothy Kirby, baker.

Do you find James Luiley, of Yarmouth, schoolmaster?

I find John Luiley, coachmaker, sworn 9th Aug. 1780, son of George Luiley, ship-carpenter.

Do you find Samuel Laws, cabinet-maker, St. Clements?—No.

As far as I have gone now, I have searched for better than 60 years. Now I have searched from 1752 only, except in some few cases, where I have gone further.

At the poll they gave in the trade which they follow, but in the book they put down the trade of which they are admitted.

They may be admitted of one trade, but follow another. If a man describes himself at the poll as a baker, he may have been admitted as a cordwainer.

This is the book since 1752, no other book but that called the Freeman's Book, it is an alphabetical list of names and trades, and when sworn; there are no stamps to the books, they are admitted on loose stamps, and after the inspector has signed the books, they are not minded, thrown about and lost.

Whenever a person applies for the freedom of the city, he is first searched to see when his father was admitted to his freedom, then the book is sent into the Court of Mayoralty, and a note, produced by the persons applying for his Freedom, proving that he was son of such a person, a copy of the register, that with the book being laid before the Mayor and Court of Aldermen, and they finding the father a Freeman of the city before the birth of the son, order the son



son to be sworn to his Freedom ; this book is used as evidence that the father was a Freeman.

Is the entry made in the book before or after sworn ?

After ; never before ; the stamped admision gives not quite so much description as the book, only the name and when sworn, not the father's name ; the Freeman are first sworn before the Court, and are entered in the Mayoralty books, sometimes by me, sometimes by the Under Chamberlain ; that is, when they are sworn, and then in this Freeman's book ; we often defer making the entries in this book some little time ; the Under Chamberlain has made more than I ; they usually do ; the entry in the Mayoralty book is made at the time the man is sworn ; the names are to be found in the Mayoralty book too ; I have not looked for the names on my list on the Mayoralty book ; I only swear I have not found them in this book, which is called the Freeman's book, and given as evidence before the Corporation.

We have but one Freeman's book at the same time.

There are Assembly books too.

There is another method of obtaining Freedom, by purchase, different trades different sums, from 3*l.* to 25*l.*

There is a Committee of the Corporation, who sit four or five times in the year, and when any person came into the city to exercise their trades, they are summoned to come before that Committee, and pay their fines for carrying on such trade.

After they have settled with the Committee, their names are laid before the assembly at large, and if no objection is made by them, they are sworn Freeman at the assembly.

There are others who claim by servitude ; he comes before the Committee, and produces his indentures of apprenticeship, and proves to the Committee a service of seven years under them, and likewise proves that at the time of his being bound the master was a Freeman of the city ; in order to come at that Freedom, the reference has been always made, since I have been Chamberlain, to these Freemens books, to prove the Freedom of the master.

Where are Freeman, by servitude first entered ?

In the book called the Chamberlain's Council Book, and so are those by fine ; there is a small fine for both, but all entered in one book ; they are not entered in the Mayoralty book, only Denizons. The Assembly books have all the entries of the Corporation at large, in them is an entry such and such men sworn free, and then they are entered on the Freemens books.

In

In the Mayoralty books are extra denizens.

In the Council book servants and finers are entered.

In the Assembly book are entered those who fine and those by servitude, and all in the Freeman's book.

I have searched no book but the Freeman's book. The entry in all is after the swearing in, in general before the entry on the stamps. The stamps are left till we hear of the Inspectors coming. The entries of servants and finers are made in the Assembly book, at the Assembly before that they are made in the Chamberlain's Council book, coming from thence to be recommended; after that they go to the Assembly and are sworn; at our leisure they are entered in the Freeman's book. The Freeman's book is an alphabetical list of those in the two other books.

The under Chamberlain has chiefly made those entries. I cannot say why he was not employed to search.

Has he not for months deferred making the transcript into the Freeman's book from the other?

He has; I do not know he has here. I believe the chief of the entries are the under Chamberlain's. The present under Chamberlain has not been so above seven or eight years.

Does it not sometimes happen that a master comes and shews his copy?

If he brings his copy we examine the book. I always do so. I cannot say what the under Chamberlain does.

If a master comes with his apprentice, who claims to be admitted by servitude, and the master produces his copy, and the master's name is found in the Mayoralty book, would that man be rejected if his master's name is not in the Freeman's book?

That is left to the Committee; I cannot charge my memory with an instance of it; I never knew one. Withdrew. Adjourned.

Sabbati 17<sup>o</sup> Die, Feb. 1787.

Mr. DALLAS says, That the Petitioners give up the scrutiny of Voters, which were opened by Mr. Piggot yesterday, so as to give Sir Thomas Beevor a majority, and confines himself to imprisonment of Voters, bribery, and treating, not as against the Voters, but against the sitting Member.

ROGER

ROGER KERRISON sworn.

I am a banker in Norwich; I am Receiver-general of the land-tax. I was at the last election.

Was any Committee appointed to conduct the election of Mr. Hobart?

There was a number of gentlemen met, what they called themselves I don't know; I was not of the party.

Have you not heard from Mr. Hobart himself that a Committee was appointed?

I have heard him say his friends were met, or something to that effect; he may possibly have said a Committee.

Do you know whether or not those friends met for the purpose of conducting the election?

I should think they did.

Have you ever heard from Mr. Hobart that they did?

His friends were met on his business.

Do you mean by his business, of the election?

I should suppose they met on that business to consult.

Can you inform the Committee of the names of any or all of those persons who so met?

Some I can; I don't know all; there was Robert Harvey, Esq; he has been there sometimes. Mr. John Day has too sometimes. I have seen them together; I do not know by what name they passed.

Do you recollect any other persons?

John Harvey, Esq;

Inform the Committee of all you recollect?

Starling Day, Esq.

Do you speak from report?

Yes; I was not of the Committee.

Mr. DALLAS. Have you heard from Mr. Hobart that any of those were of his Committee?

I never heard it from Mr. Hobart directly, not the particular persons.

Have you or not heard from Mr. Hobart the names of any persons, as his friends, who conducted the business of this election?

Yes, I have; not to tell me they conducted the business of his election.

What do you mean by the words "not to tell me they conducted the business of his election."

He did not use those expressions, he called them his friends.

Do

Do you recollect the exact expressions Mr. Hobart made use of?

My friends will have a meeting this evening.

Was that the only expression Mr. Hobart made use of in that conversation?

That was his mode of expressing himself at various times, "That his friends would meet the next day at twelve." He may have made use of others at other times.

Did he mention for what purpose his friends were to meet, when he told you his friends were to meet the next day at twelve o'clock?

To consult upon the business of the election; I understood so; I generally understood so from Mr. Hobart.

Did Mr. Hobart ever inform you who those friends were?

Sometimes he did say who were there; he mentioned those names I have before mentioned, and several other names.

Have you ever heard from Mr. Hobart what business was transacted at such meetings?—Yes.

State it?

Answering letters sometimes, enquiring where freemen lived, words to that effect.

Am I to understand you that the purpose of such meetings was in general to conduct the business of the election?

Yes; I should suppose it was.

Do you mean Robert Harvey senior or junior?

I have known both to be there; that is, I have not been there; I have often heard Mr. Hobart mention both their names as being there, and a great many other names.

Have you heard him mention Mr. Peete?—Yes.

Mr. Thomas Day?—Yes.

Mr. Hardingham?—Yes.

Mr. John Roach?—Yes.

Mr. John Hamp?—Yes.

I have heard him mention a great many other names.

Do you recollect the names of any others besides those mentioned?—Yes.

Name them?—Robert Partridge, Esq;

Mention all?

Mr. Dillingham he has said has been with them, and Sir John Berney.

Was there any sum of money lodged in your hands previous to, or during the election, for the purposes thereof?

Yes.

By whom?



Sums of money paid to me by numbers of people to be placed to Mr. Hobart's account.

Will you mention their names?

Sir Thomas Durrant; by Mr. Hobart himself; Sir John Berney, Robert Harvey, Esq; Robert Harvey, Esq; junior; Jeremiah Ives, Esq; of St. Saviours; Starling Day, Esq; John Harvey, Esq; Robert Partridge, Esq; Robert Marham, Esq; Mr. Hobart's tenants paid some money.

What was the amount of the money so paid?

At various times to the amount of about 4000l. upwards of 4000l. but under 5000l.

Did you subscribe any sum to carry on this election?

No. I lent—I advanced some money myself, not to subscribe to give it. — Withdrew.

Called in again, and told he need not answer questions which may tend to criminate himself.

I had a security for the money I lent.

The sum deposited, and what I advanced made together 4000l. and upwards.

By whom was that sum, or any part of it drawn out of your hands?

Some by Mr. Hobart himself; drafts of many gentlemen.

Have you those drafts with you?—Yes.

Produce them?—Withdrew.

The Counsel for Mr. Hobart object to his producing them.

Committee direct the papers to be produced.

Witness called again.

(Produces the drafts which are read as follows.)

Draft, 21st July, 1786. By John Harvey and Richard Peete to Robert Chalker, for payment in full of his bill on account of the Honourable Henry Hobart for \_\_\_\_\_ £ 16 0 0

22d. By Starling Day to Josephat Hardingham, placed to the account of Mr. Hobart 20 0 0

Same day, Starling Day to Josephat Hardingham \_\_\_\_\_ 20 0 0

24th July, 1786. Starling Day to Jos. Hardingham \_\_\_\_\_ 50 0 0

\_\_\_\_\_ Robert Partridge to the same \_\_\_\_\_ 50 0 0

25th, \_\_\_\_\_ John Day to Hardingham 50 0 0

26th, \_\_\_\_\_ Andrew Sealy to Hardingham \_\_\_\_\_ 50 0 0

27th

27th, ———	By order of the Committee, J. C. Hamp to Hardingham, place it to the account of Mr. Henry Hobart	50	0	0
31st, ———	to Hardingham, and place it to the account of the Honourable Henry Hobart, by order of the Committee, Richard Peete	50	0	0
1st August, 1786,	Robert Partridge to Hardingham	50	0	0
———	Mr. Hobart himself, to self or bearer	50	0	0
3d, ———	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	50	0	0
4th, ———	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	100	0	0
5th, ———	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	50	0	0
7th, ———	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	50	0	0
10, ———	J. Roach to bearer	20	0	0
———	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	50	0	0
11, ———	J. C. Hamp to bearer	50	0	0
12, ———	J. C. Hamp to the order of Mr. William Short	21	6	0
14, ———	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	50	0	0
15, ———	J. C. Hamp to bearer	50	0	0
15, ———	J. C. Hamp to bearer	50	0	0
17, ———	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	50	0	0
———	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	50	0	0
———	J. Roach to bearer	20	0	0
19, ———	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	50	0	0
21, ———	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	50	0	0
———	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	50	0	0
22, ———	J. C. Hamp. Please to send a fifty pound draft on demand upon London for account of Mr. Henry Hobart.			
———	J. C. Hamp to bearer	50	0	0
24, ———	Thomas Day to Hardingham	100	0	0
26, ———	J. C. Hamp to bearer	50	0	0
28, ———	J. C. Hamp, please to send a bill on London for	50	0	0
———	J. C. Hamp to Mr. Thomas Tilburey	49	6	0
———	John Roach to bearer	20	0	0
———	Thomas Day to Hardingham, or order	50	0	0
———	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	50	0	0
———	J. C. Hamp to Mr. H. Raven	59	5	0
30, ———	Thomas Day to Hardingham	50	0	0

31, —————	Mostyn John Armstrong to			
Hardingham	—————	50	0	0
—————	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	50	0	0
1st Sept. 1786,	J. C. Hamp to bearer	50	0	0
—————	J. C. Hamp, bill on London	50	0	0
—————	J. C. Hamp to bearer	50	0	0
4, —————	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	50	0	0
—————	M. J. Armstrong to Hard-			
ingham	—————	100	0	0
—————	John Roach, self or bearer	20	0	0
—————	Thomas Day to Hardingham	50	0	0
6, —————	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	50	0	0
7, —————	J. C. Hamp a bill on London for	100	0	0
8, —————	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	200	0	0
—————	A. Sealy to Raven or order	50	0	0
—————	A. Sealy to Hardingham	50	0	0
9, —————	J. C. Hamp to bearer	50	0	0
—————	John Roach, self or bearer	20	0	0
11, —————	M. J. Armstrong to Harding-			
ham	—————	50	0	0
12, —————	R. Peete to Hardingham	50	0	0
—————	J. C. Hamp, bill on London	100	0	0
13, —————	J. Roach, self, or bearer	20	0	0
—————	J. C. Hamp to bearer	30	0	0
14, —————	J. C. Hamp to Robert Jackson	50	0	0
—————	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	100	0	0
—————	Thomas Basely to Hardingham	50	0	0
16, —————	J. C. Hamp, bearer, Mr. Tho-			
mas Booth	—————	300	0	0
Mr. Dallas then proceeds to produce drafts paid after election.				
Mr. Douglas objects.				
Committee allow them.				
(Produced and read.)				
19, Sept. 1786,	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	50	0	0
—————	J. C. Hamp to bearer	100	0	0
—————	J. C. Hamp to Mr. Charles			
Leffby	—————	100	0	0
—————	J. C. Hamp to Mr. Harrison			
of Swaffham	—————	73	16	0
—————	J. C. Hamp to Mr. Edward			
Leeds	—————	50	0	0
20, —————	J. C. Hamp to bearer	100	0	0
21, —————	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham	200	0	0
22, —————	J. C. Hamp to bearer	100	0	0
				25th Sept,



25, —————	J. C. Hamp to bearer —	50	0	0
—————	J. C. Hamp to Hardingham —	50	0	0
26, —————	J. C. Hamp to bearer Mr. Goddins —	50	0	0
29, —————	J. C. Hamp to Mr. Rygrave —	31	10	0
30, —————	J. C. Hamp to Mr. Hardingham —	50	0	0
3d Oct. 1786.	J. C. Hamp to bearer —	50	0	0
5, —————	Hardingham to bearer —	10	0	0
13, —————	J. C. Hamp to bearer —	50	0	0
24, —————	Hardingham to bearer —	40	0	0
26, —————	J. C. Hamp in a bill at sight on London, to the order of Mr. William Townsend of Downham —	17	3	0
31, —————	J. C. Hamp to bearer —	20	0	0
7th Nov. ————	J. C. Hamp to bearer Mr. Goodwin —	20	0	0

Do you know Robert Chalker?—I know his name.

What business does he follow?

I think he keeps a public house; he did; I do not know he does now. I cannot say positively whether he did or not at the election.

Do you know a person of the name of Thomas Booth, being a waiter at the White Swan?

There is a Thomas, his name may be Booth; I rather think it is Booth.

Was this all the money paid by your house on account of Mr. Hobart's election?

There was some more drafts on my banker in London. There were drafts exceeding those I have produced, to the amount of 300 or 400l. but I cannot speak positively what they were for. I have not those.

Where are they?

They may be returned to Norwich, or at the banker's house in London; they are not returned regularly.

Have you brought up all the drafts that were in your custody when you left Norwich.

There may be some of these vouchers returned to Norwich. I may have some if not all.

How came you when you had notice to produce all such drafts to leave any behind?

I understood I was to produce the drafts on me,

How happens it, that you having had notice to produce all drafts or bills drawn by you separately, or conjunctly with your partners, or any other person, on Messrs. Vere and



and Williams, on account of Mr. Hobart's election, you do not now produce them ?

I can by sending to the banker's ; I have some of them at Norwich returned to me : They may all be at Norwich for what I know.

Have you brought your books ?—Yes.

Will not the amount of the bills appear by them ?—Yes.

(Drafts drawn by J. C. Hamp, 22d August, 1786, for a bill on London for 50*l.* shewn him.)

Was a bill made out in consequence of it ?

No doubt of it on my banker in London.

Has that bill been returned from your banker's to you ?

I make no doubt I have it at home.

Have you been many years a banker at Norwich ?

Yes, more than twenty.

Did Mr. Hobart keep cash with you as a banker before the election ?

Yes ; many years.

How many ?—Not less than fourteen.

Have Mr. Hobart's tenants remitted money into your hands in former years ?—Yes, several years.

Have you remitted money to London upon Mr. Hobart's account in former years ?

I have drawn him bills payable to himself for several sums of money.

Do other gentlemen of fortune in Norwich keep cash with you.—Yes ; a great many.

Are you treasurer to any public trust ?—A good many.

Name them ?

To the Court of Guardians for the maintenance of the poor : I receive all the poor's rates of Norwich, and pay all the drafts.

I am treasurer to the Great Hospital of Norwich ; to the Hundred of Forehoe, and to Mitsford and Launditch Hundreds ; to several turnpike roads, and to several smaller charities.

Mr. GARROW. Whether any of the other persons who, during the election, drew bills on you, or gave you orders for bills on London, on account of Mr. Hobart, had themselves accounts with you ?

Mr. Hamp has a private account with me, and so has Mr. Hardingham.

Had Mr. Booth ?—No.

Had Mr. Starling Day ?—Yes.

Had Mr. John Harvey and Mr. Richard Peete a joint one ?—No ; a separate one each of them.

You

You having said you had formerly drawn for Mr. Hobart bills payable to him in London; state whether at any time prior to 21st July, 1786, you had paid drafts drawn by other persons besides Mr. Hobart himself out of his cash on his account?—Yes; some years ago, not lately.

State how many years ago?—Not three years ago.

Was it at the period of the general election?—Yes.

Did you upon any other occasion than that of the late election at Norwich and the general election answer any such drafts?

I do not recollect I ever did. I was Mr. Hobart's banker then as well as now. (A letter shewn him.)

It is Mr. Hobart's hand-writing. (Produced.)

(Draft, 27th July, 1786, by J. C. Hamp, by order of the Committee to Mr. Hardingham for 50l. shewn him.)

What Committee did you understand that to be drawn by the order of?—By Mr. Hobart's election Committee.

Was Mr. Hamp a member of that Committee?

He was often with them; I never heard from Mr. Hobart that he was.

(A recommendation of a petition of Mr. Middleton shewn him.)

Do you know those hands?

Here is mine and Richard Peete's, and Robert Harvey, junior, and John Paterson, Alderman of Norwich, late sheriff at the election; Mr. Hobart's, I know him too; I do not know Mountsey's; here is the hand of Thomas Day to the paper annexed I believe, I have seen him write.

Withdrew.

JOHN HAMMOND COLE sworn.

I am a clerk in Mr. Kerrison's bank; I have been more than ten years.

Do you know of any deposit having been made in that bank by Mr. Hobart, or any person on his part, previous to the late election, for the purposes of the election?

I do not recollect any particular deposit.

Do you remember any considerable sums of money being paid into the bank at that period?

I do not know what is meant by a considerable sum.

Has a sum of ten, eight, seven, six, five or 4000l.?

To the best of my knowledge No.

What other sum was then paid about that period?

I can.

I cannot say what particular sums were paid, I have not the books here. The general banking ledger is in town at our lodgings.

State nearly what sum was paid in ?

I suppose there may have been paid in at different times 3000l.

Do you believe it does not exceed that sum ?

It may, but I cannot say. I have not looked at the books since I came to London.

Have not you looked at the ledger since you received your summons to attend here ?

The summons not stating on what I was to be examined, I have not attentively looked at it so as to answer.

Did you not know before you left Norwich that Mr. Kerrison was ordered to produce his books ?

I saw Mr. Kerrison's subpoena, which stated he was ordered to produce them.

Do you mean to say, that after that you have not looked at the account ?—I have since.

Then what do you believe was the sum paid in ?

I believe 3000 not 4000l. but I cannot say positively what sum.

Do you know by whom the money was drawn out ?

By sundry drafts by different people.

Who ?—A Mr. Hamp, a merchant in Norwich.

In what right did he draw for the money of Mr. Hobart ?

I understood he had an order to draw on Mr. Kerrison, I did not hear it from Mr. Hobart.

Did you pay any of those drafts ?

I have paid the drafts of Mr. Hamp as I would pay any other gentleman's drafts ; I did not pay them out of Mr. Hamp's cash.

Why did you pay them out of Mr. Hobart's cash ?

It was understood Mr. Hamp had an order to draw on Mr. Kerrison on Mr. Hobart's account.

Did you understand that from Mr. Hobart ?

No ; not particularly.

Do you in the course of your business pay the drafts of one man out of the cash of another, without the order of the person to whom you charge it ?—No.

Do you then mean, that you paid those drafts drawn by Hamp without the order of Mr. Hobart ?

I do not recollect receiving any orders from Mr. Hobart.

Did you hear Mr. Hobart give any orders to any other person to pay Mr. Hamp's drafts ?—No.

Then



Then give some reason for paying them and charging them to Mr. Hobart?

There were several gentlemen, the friends of Mr. Hobart, who met previous to the election for the purpose of conducting that business, amongst them was Mr. Hamp, they were impowered to transact the business of that election, consequently they drew drafts for the expences necessarily incurred by that election.

By whose particular order I paid those drafts I do not know; I had no particular order, but paid them on the credit of the gentlemen acting on that business, on the credit of their responsibility.

(Draft, 19th Sept. 1786, for 73l. 16s. to Mrs. Harrison of Swaffham, by J. C. Hamp, shewn him.)

Do you mean to say you paid that draft on the credit of Mr. Hobart or Mr. Hamp?

When I said on the responsibility of the gentlemen drawing those drafts, I wished to be understood to say, that if there was an error in drawing on account of Mr. Hobart, that the drawer was accountable to Mr. Kerrison, that is what I meant by saying responsible.

Did you then debit the accounts of the several drawers with those sums?

No; because there was no objection to their being placed to the account of Mr. Hobart.

No objection by whom?

Mr. Hobart himself did not object in looking over the account, there was no objection from Mr. Hobart against such drafts being placed to his account.

That examination was after the payment, then how could that be a reason for not debiting them to the several drawers?

I again observe they were gentlemen concerned in conducting Mr. Hobart's election; I knew them to be men of responsibility, and if there was any error in drawing on the account of Mr. Hobart, there was no risk run, because they would have repaid them.

(Draft, 16th Sept. 1786, by J. C. Hamp to bearer Thomas Booth 300l. shewn him.)

I do not know Thomas Booth; there is a Booth a waiter at the Swan, I have heard him called Thomas.

If a draft of Mr. Hamp's for 300l. payable to Booth, and directed to be placed to the account of Mr. Hobart, was now to be produced to Mr. Kerrison's bank, would it be paid and charged to Mr. Hobart's account, supposing Mr. Hobart to have cash there?

D

I should



I should have no objection to paying Mr. Hamp's draft, and to charging it to Mr. Hobart.

Question repeated.

I should pay it on the same reasons I paid Mr. Hamp's drafts before, knowing that if there was any error in that draft Mr. Hamp would replace it.

Would you have paid such a draft before Lord Suffield was made a peer ?

Yes, on the credit of Mr. Hamp, that if he had no right to draw he would replace it.

Do you know of a single instance, except in the concerns of Mr. Hobart, that the draft of one man, without authority, has been paid under the idea of any errors in it being rectified ?—Yes.

Name them.

I cannot recal to my memory any particular instance ; but I would say, that if any gentleman who I knew to be a man of responsibility, was to draw on Mr. Kerrison on any other person's account, I would pay that draft sooner than discredit the drawer, knowing him to be of responsibility.

Do you mean to state that to be the course of business at Mr. Kerrison's ?—Certainly not generally.

Do you mean to be understood that if you had an opinion of the responsibility of any particular person, you would suffer that person to continue a course of drawing for several weeks, and to the amount of several thousand pounds upon the credit of another person without his authority ?

If after paying the first drawn by the person on another account, and that gentleman making no objection to that first draft, I should pay the second, and so on till I was ordered to the contrary, admitting that the gentleman looked over his account.

Did Mr. Hobart from time to time look over his account ?  
Yes.

Did he approve of these payments ?

He made no objection to them.

Was he from time to time furnished with his banking book ?—Yes.

Was these carried to his debit ?

Yes ; he had no objection.

Was Mr. Hamp a member of the Committee ?

I do not know that he was.

Have you ever heard it from Mr. Hobart ?

Don't recollect.

Did you understand they conducted the business of the election ?

Yes,

Yes, from the world in general, from report.

Did you know on what account that payment of 300l. to Booth was made?

No, I never heard from Mr. Hobart.

(Looks at the draft to Mrs. Harrison.)

On what account was that?

I do not know, I suppose she is the wife of a man who keeps an Inn at Swaffham.

Do you know whether any Norwich voters were entertained there?—No.

I have seen Mr. Charles Loftby since I came to town.

At what house did Mr. Hobart's committee meet?

The gentlemen who drew these drafts and conducted the election met at the king's-head, Mr. Raven's.

(Two drafts payable to Raven shewn him.)

I do not know on what account they were paid.

Did you prior to, or during the election, ever attend the meetings?

No, to the best of my knowledge I never was in the room.

(Draft to Chalker shewn him.)

I do not know on what account it was paid, don't know what business he is.—Adjourned.

Lunæ 19. die Feb. 1787.

J. H. COLE, sworn.

Did you mean to say that you knew of any authority given the gentlemen to transact the business of the election by Mr. Hobart?

No, he never told me he empowered any particular set of men to conduct the election.—The drafts were all carried to Mr. Hobart's account, the election account.—The gentlemen were liable.

Did you advance the money on their credit?

I advanced the money so far upon their credit, that I was positive if there was any error these gentlemen would have replaced it.

Did you at all look to the credit of the drawers?

Certainly not.

Mr. GARROW, Did you conceive it possible there should be an error in paying when Mr. Hobart approved it, and saw the payments every day?—No.

When you said that these gentlemen had authority to conduct the business of the election, what were your reasons?

I had no absolute reason, I took it from common report.

Was there any transaction between Mr. Kerrison's bank and those gentlemen which induced you to form that opinion?

None that I know of, there were the drafts which have been produced, those drafts not being objected to, furnished me with the opinion that they had the right.

Mr. Garrow calls on him to produce the ledger of Mr. Kerrison's bank.

Mr. Douglas objects to the production of it.

Witness withdrew.—Court cleared,

Resolved, that the books be now produced.

Counsel called in and acquainted therewith.

*Cole again.* This is the banking ledger for the year 1786, the original and first ledger, the first book into which the account is posted from the day or waste book.

(Produces it, and the counsel for the petitioners are suffered to inspect such parts as relate to Mr. Hobart.)

The entries were made day by day as the transactions occurred.

(Read from the book, p. 106 and 107. Debtor the

Hon. Henry Hobart's election account 3005l. 17s.

On the same with a balance of 700l. First entry on 2d. July, last 13th September.)

We have at the same time a private account of Mr. Hobart.

(Reads title, "The account of the Honourable H. Hobart." (read p. 458.)

This is a continuation of page 407.—The title is the writing of one of the Clerks, the contracted word "acer." is mine.—(N. B. "The title is, Hon. Hy. Hts. account.")

When was the word account wrote?—This morning.

Since you was examined on Saturday?—Yes.

Where?—At the Adelphi.

Mr. Kerrison present.—Yes.

It is written on an erasure?—Yes.

What did you erase in order to insert the word?

I did not erase, I was not present, I suppose Mr. Kerrison erased it, it was in his custody.

Could any body but he or you have done it?

I believe not.

Did Mr. Kerrison direct you to write account?—Yes.

Did he give any reason for your doing it in preference to him?—No.

Is the writing of Mr. Kerrison or yours most like the rest?

Don't know.

Where did you see this before the erasure was made?

Saturday,



Saturday, previous I believe to the Committee, and yesterday.

What was erased?

The words "Subscription acct." Subscription at length.

By whose advice was it done?

I know nothing more about it, I heard no conversation between Mr. Kerrison and any body else about it.

There is a balance of 135l. 17s. brought on there from the other. (Read page 458.)

Dr. 2495 18 6

Cr. 3005 17 0

---

5501 15 6

135 17 0

---

5365 18 6

I think I saw the account on Saturday before I came to the Committee, I recollect they were not opened, now all the accounts are in that book, all the money issued from Mr. Kerrison's bank for the election.

One of the junior Clerks made out an extract before it came from Norwich. Title, "The Honble. Henry Hobart's account neither election nor subscription."

What reason did Mr. Kerrison give for the erasure?

That he did not think the word Subscription a proper word, and he conceived he had a right to alter the title in his own book.

What do the ticks import?

When a book is posted the items are called over and checked.

Is there any writing of Mr. Kerrison's on that account?

No.

No mark of any sort of his?

Not that I know of, I don't see there is.

Whose writing is R. Kerrison?

One of the Clerks.

What did that entry import?

That Mr. Kerrison had given credit for 100l. that had not been paid in by any body.

Perhaps that he had subscribed 100l. to the election?

No, I do not believe it was.

This is the conclusion of the election and subscription account.—There is no balance struck, it is nearly 95l. against Mr. Hobart.—Withdrew.

R. KERRISON,



R. KERRISON, sworn.

This is my ledger, it comes from me, it was in my custody on Saturday, it was brought here by my clerk.

Is it in the same state in which it was on Saturday?

I altered the word subscription on the top, because I thought it improper, as my clerk had done it, not knowing that I had a bond for the several sums to the amount of 1500l. to be paid to me by Mr. Hobart, and to repay that sum to the different people who had subscribed it.

How long have you had such bond?

Ever since the first of October last.

Then you had no such bond at the time of the election?

No.

Have you told the persons whose names are in that list that you had such bond?

Yes, several of them, I may have told all; they know that the bond is given to me to be paid by installments.

(Bond produced.)

Have you given any counter security to the different subscribers.

Yes, one bond for the payment of the different sums to the amount of 1500l.

Is this bond the security which you meant when you told the Committee, the other day, that you had not yourself subscribed, for you had a security for all that you had advanced?

No, it is not, there is a ballance due to me now of 700l.

Do you mean to state to the Committee that you accepted a bond for 1500l. payable by installments, as an indemnity to you against an undertaking entered into by you to repay 2398?

No, some of them might have Mr. Hobart's separate security, there were sums paid into Mr. Hobart's account which were not included in that 1500l. bond.

Were not all those men subscribers?—I believe not all,

Name those who were subscribers?

Richard Gurney subscribed 150l.

Sir John Berney 75l.

Sir Thomas Durrant 50 guineas,

Mr. Dillingham ditto.

A. Sealy 21l.

Name some that did not?

Blake did not, 300l. I do not know that he gave any.

Did he not subscribe for the purpose of the election?

Yes, certainly,

Robert Harvey and sons subscribed 150l.

Can

Can you point out any man who did not subscribe the money opposite to his name?—No.

John Harvey lent 100l. part of the 1500l. bond.

Robert Partridge 100l.

I had 1500l. bond, the rest all subscribed unless they had separate notes.

From the election to the first of October, was not the whole of that money understood to be subscribed for the purposes of the election?

At the time of the election it was understood that 1500l. was lent, the rest subscribed.

Did you settle your books at Christmas?

Yes, we transfer it from one ledger to the other.

Was you present at the settling of your books last Christmas?

I was in the counting-house where they were settled as far as they are.

Why did you not then settle the title?

I did not observe it then.

What is the index of that account?

Hon. Henry Hobart.

Was there nothing else?—There was "Subscription."

When was the title to that altered?—This morning.

Do you mean to say, that you never knew of that title, either in ledger or index till this morning?

I do not mean to say that.

Did not you know there was such an account open in your books during the election?—Yes.

Why did not you alter it earlier?

It did not immediately strike me till I came to examine that I had this bond; my clerk put the title without my order, he did not know I had this bond.

Did you deliver to Mr. Troward a copy of this account?

Yes; my clerk did.

What was the title?—Hon. Hy. Hobart.

Where was it done?

At Norwich; only the Hon. Henry Hobart; nothing more, I have seen it this morning.

Who was present when this alteration was made in the ledger?—I erased the word subscription.

Was Mr. Cole present at the time?—No.

Did you erase it by yourself?—Yes.

Were you required to erase it by any one?—No.

Did you make it from your own judgment alone?

Yes; entirely.

Had

Had you mentioned to any person the state in which the account was entered before you made the erasure?

No; I thought the bond would be produced, and therefore thought the word improper.

What reason had you for making this alteration?

Because I did not look on the sum as all subscribed, only a part. My clerk gave a copy of the account to Mr. Troward this morning; there was no copy delivered before this morning.

Had the copy the title Subscription? — No.

What title?

The Hon. Mr. Hobart, and a copy of all the sums; part of the sum being lent, I thought it an improper title.

Was that the only reason for making the alteration? — Yes.

Did Mr. Hobart, or any person authorized by him, apply to have the erasure made? — No.

Did you inform any body of your intention to make the erasure? — No.

Did you tell Mr. Troward of the erasure? — No.

Were the several sums entered after the 1st of October, the date of the bond?

Yes; on the 16th October Mr. Sealy 21l. Robert Partridge 100l. upwards of 300l. altogether paid in to me towards their subscription; they had subscribed, but had not paid the money. Here is a sum of 500l. which Mr. Hamp received himself the 18th of September, he gave me a receipt for it. (Produced and read.)

J. C. Hamp to bearer 500l. 18th Sept. 1786.

Here are my bills on London, in favour of Mr. Hobart. (Bills produced and read.)

22d Aug. 1786. Kerrison to Hamp, or order, 50l. indorsed by Hamp to Leftley, or order, and received by Leftley.

28th Aug. 1786. Kerrison to Hamp, or order, 50l. indorsed as above; received as above.

1st Sept. 1786. Kerrison to Hamp, or order, 50l. indorsed ditto; received ditto.

7th Sept. 1786. Kerrison to Hamp, or order, 100l. indorsed ditto; received ditto.

A letter of credit from Kerrison to Hamp, or bearer, 100l. indorsed by Hamp to Leftley, and received by Leftley, 12th Sept. 1786.

Are all, or any of these bills drawn by you to answer drafts on your house? — Yes.

Did you direct your clerks to honour these drafts on Mr. Hobart's election account? — Yes.

By

By whose authority did you ?

My authority was the gentlemen who generally met to consult on Mr. Hobart's business, and as money was paid into my hands, I kept honouring their drafts ; when I found it was 700l. over drawn, I told some of his friends, I did not chuse to be in advance, therefore, I said, they must try and raise some money amongst themselves, so they raised 1500l. the rest was subscribed.

Had you any authority from Mr. Hobart to charge to his account drafts not made by him ?

Yes ; I conceive I had.

Had you it directly ?

Mr. Hobart must know of it ; I do not recollect any particular conversation with him ; I told him I should place all those to separate account, and not blend them with his private account ; he often told me not to blend them with the other.——Withdrew.

Mr. Dallas proposes to examine Mr. Bygrave as to certain facts. Mr. Partridge objects, as Mr. Bygrave is attorney for Mr. Hobart and the Committee.

#### ROBERT BYGRAVE, sworn.

What are you ?—An attorney and solicitor.

Was you at any time employed by Mr. Hobart as his solicitor ?—17th July, 1786.

Had you before that time ever been employed by Mr. Hobart as such ?—No.

Was you employed as the solicitor for Mr. Peete during that election ?—Not as solicitor for Mr. Peete individually.

Was you for Mr. Day ?—No.

Mr. Harvey ?—No.

Mr. Richard Harvey ?—No.

Mr. John Day ?—No.

Mr. Thomas Day ?—No.

Mr. Hardingham ?—No.

Mr. Roach ?—No.

Mr. Hamp ?—No.

Do you know whether Mr. Hobart employs any other solicitor at Norwich ?—I do not know he does ; he may.

For what purpose was you first employed by Mr. Hobart as his solicitor ?

For the purpose of conducting the business of the last election.

Had you, previous to your being employed by Mr. Hobart on 17th July to conduct the business of this election,



attended as clerk to any Committee assembled for that purpose?—I had not

Was you on the 17th July applied to by Mr. Hobart himself to act in the manner you have mentioned, or was such application made to you by any other person on Mr. Hobart's behalf.

I was sent for to a meeting of Mr. Hobart and his friends, at the White Swan Inn, and there saw Mr. Hobart, attended by his friends, and was introduced into a room where several of them were sitting, and began to take measures for a canvas on the following morning, and a canvas was begun.

Was any proposal or offer made by you at that meeting to become, in your professional character as an attorney, the agent of Mr. Hobart, by Mr. Hobart himself, or any other person present; and, if so, by whom?—No such offer was made.

Did you continue any time with that meeting?

I believe about three or four hours. I considered myself as employed

COURT. Did you attend this Committee on the 17th of July at your own motion, or at any one's desire; and, if so, at whose?—A messenger came for me.

From whom?—He did not say.

Who was it?

I know him very well; he came from the White Swan; he told me that the gentlemen, friends of Mr. Hobart, were met at the White Swan, and wished to see me.

Did you understand this man came from those friends?

Yes.

Did you attend there as an attorney?—Yes.

When you went to the Swan Inn, was you received by Mr. Hobart and the gentlemen there, as if they expected you?—Yes; I think I was.

In consequence of that message, and of your going to that meeting, have you considered yourself as acting as an attorney for Mr. Hobart and those gentlemen ever since?

Yes.

Have you for that time kept any account or bill of charges as an attorney with Mr. Hobart or those gentlemen?—No.

Was you employed by Mr. Hobart before the time of meeting the Committee?

I was just spoken to by Mr. Hobart; no conversation.

Was you solicitor to him before?—No.

Do not you expect to be paid as an attorney from 17th July?—To be sure I do.

Do

Do you expect to be paid by those gentlemen, or Mr. Hobart?

I consider them altogether as responsible, but I should not know who to make application to.

Then you mean to charge it to the whole collectively?

I do not know I mean that.

Who do you mean to charge it to?

I have not made up my mind as to that.

Do you ever receive any directions in writing, or any letter from Mr. Hobart, or either of the Committee?—No.

Have you made out any bill?

No; I have made no entry in my books.

When you do make up an account, and deliver it, shall you deliver it to Mr. Hobart, or this Committee, or who else?—I cannot say to whom I shall deliver that account.

Do not you mean those who employed you to pay you?

Yes.

Then do not you expect them to pay you?

I do not look upon them that they were my employers directly. I was not directly employed so as to be spoken to, and therefore, in fact, I should be somehow at a loss.

Do you think you have any demand on Mr. Hobart as an attorney?—I think I have.

Then you look upon it you was employed on Mr. Hobart's account?

Yes; but I am not clear as to the individuals of the Committee.

Should you look up to Mr. Hobart for payment?—Yes.

Do you consider yourself to have been retained, or employed, on the 17th of July, or did you act voluntarily for the interest you espoused.

I considered myself as employed.

Did you act as an attorney for Mr. Hobart, and did Mr. Hobart permit you to do so during the canvas, and during the election?

Yes; I had frequent communications with him as an attorney.

Did Mr. Hobart ever make any direct proposal to you?

Never.

By whom did you consider yourself as employed?

Mr. Hobart.—Withdrew.

Adjourned.

Martis, 20<sup>o</sup> Die Feb. 1787.

And now proposing to examine Mr. Bygrave.  
The counsel for the sitting Member object to it, and the  
counsel on both sides argue the point.

ROBERT BYGRAVE sworn.

(Called by the Committee.)

Whether you was or not clerk to Mr. Hobart or the  
Committee?

I did not consider myself as clerk to Mr. Hobart or the  
Committee?

In what relation did you consider yourself as to Mr. Ho-  
bart and the Committee?—Attorney.

Withdrew.—Court cleared.

Resolved, That Robert Bygrave be not examined to  
any matter touching the election since the 17th of  
July.

Counsel called in and acquainted therewith.

MR. HAMMOND COLE sworn.—

This is a copy of Mr. Hobart's election account.

(Produced.)

This is a copy of the second account; the subscription  
and account. (Produced.) Withdrew.

HENRY RAVEN sworn.

I am a Freeman of Norwich; I voted for Mr. Hobart.  
I keep the King's Head Inn in the Market-place at Nor-  
wich.

Did Mr. Hobart use your house?—Yes always.

Did he hold the Committee at your house?

There was a number of his friends frequently met there,  
whether a Committee or not I cannot tell.

Was there any room called a Committee Room?—No.

How frequently did those friends meet?

Can't tell; not constantly every day during the election  
and canvas.

From 16th July till after the election can you state any  
day on which these friends of Mr. Hobart did not meet?

There was a day or two that they did not meet, but  
cannot tell the day of the month.

Name the friends of Mr. Hobart that met at your house?

Innu-



Innumerable.

Name some ?

Starling Day, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Garthorne, Mr. John Roach.

Did Mr. Hobart meet these gentlemen ?

He used the house, and did so now, before, and after ; I never had a private room, for they all went backwards and forwards.

Did these friends dine.

Yes ; several times at their own expence, and we gathered the money individually two or three times in that manner.

In what other manner at other times ?

I do not know of many dinners.

Question repeated.

I only mention those dinners which I did know of.

Did they frequently sup ?—No.

Did they ever ?—Don't remember.

When the reckonings were not paid immediately after dinner, in what manner were they paid and by whom ?

The bill was requested by different gentlemen, and at different times, and the waiter came and informed me and I received the money of the waiter.

Name some who paid the bills ?

I cannot, for I did not think it necessary to ask.

Was you always paid in cash, or sometimes by drafts on the banker ?

I think I received only two drafts and gave change out of both to the best of my recollection.

Did you receive any after the election ?—No.

No draft, no bill, no cash ?—No.

How much money did you receive on the whole ?

Can't tell.

What was your bill against Mr. Hobart or his friends ?

Can't tell.

Within a hundred or two pounds ?

I believe I have taken near 300l.

How much is there now due ?—I believe about 150l.

Was any Freeman or Freeholders of Norwich entertained at your house on the days of the election ?

I believe Freeman and Freeholders, and not Freeman and Freeholders, a general bustle.

Name some Freeman.

I cannot name one ; I was in the bar and kept in it, because I did not chuse to be in the bustle.

How much was the expence of those two days of the election ?

About



About 150l. a number of country voters who came from a distance, could not get away, and were at my house till Sunday and Monday.

Say how many Out-voters were there?—Can't tell.

How many beds did you let out to Out-voters?

Can't say.

Will you swear that there was any Out-voters on Sunday and Monday?—I will.

How many and what was your charge for them?

There was no separate charge for them; one general charge for all the expence.

How many Out-voters dined at your house on the Sunday?—Cannot tell.

Who gave you your drafts?

I believe from the waiter's hands, and I gave change I believe out of both.

(Two shewn him, one for 59l. dated 28th August, the other for 50l. dated the 8th of September.)

Who is Mr. Hamp who gave one of them to you?

A gentleman of Norwich.

Was he one of those gentlemen who used to meet at your house?—Yes.

Was Mr. Sealy who signed the other?—Yes: I know Mr. Bygrave.

Was he one of the persons who used to meet?—Yes.

In what character did Mr. Bygrave attend?—I can't tell.

How was he employed?—Can't tell.

How often there?—Very frequently.

Did he usually attend the meetings?

He used to be there several times.

Is he a Freeman of Norwich?

I cannot tell; the greater part of the others were, because I understood they were Mr. Hobart's friends; there were a number of them who were not free.

Did you during the canvas or election send out any carriages or expresses?—Yes.

By whose orders?

The order in general came by the waiter; Mr. Hobart's friends want carriages or horses.

Do you mean that you never personally received the orders?—Yes.

Name any of the runners, chairmen, or flavemen?

Cannot.

Have you ever seen Mr. Bygrave write?

Yes; last Sunday.

(A letter shewn him.)

Is it Mr. Bygrave's hand-writing as you believe?

I believe it is from the little knowledge I have of his hand.

Have you ever seen Mr. Hobart write?

I do not know I ever did; I have seen him write at a distance? I have no judgment on it.

Did you ever go to those gentlemen who met at your house at any other house?

I went to Johnson's Coffee-house one evening.

To whom?—To meet a company to sup.

Did you pay your reckoning?—Yes; I always do.

Who were there?

I believe Mr. Hobart was there; Alderman Gay was in the chair.

How many might sup there?

Cannot tell; the bill was called for and I paid. To my own knowledge Mr. Hobart's friends went to the Swan and Johnson's Coffee-house.

Did you attend Mr. Hobart in the canvas?—No.

Can you state how much the 450l. paid and due, was for the entertainments of the resident Freemen at Norwich?

I believe the greater part of the 300l. was for post and chaise hire and expresses.

How much of the 300l.?—Cannot tell.

Will you swear 100l. was?

Yes; I dare say it was more than that.

Will you swear there was so much as 80l. paid for that?

I will swear more than 80l. more than 100l. because I keep three chaises and fifteen horses, and borrowed some, so it was more than 100l. I know it must.

How much of your whole bill paid and unpaid was for expences incurred in entertaining resident Freemen.

Cannot tell, because there were free and not free altogether.

For the entertainment of persons resident in Norwich?

Upwards of 300l. but Out voters partook of it.

How much for Out-voters, and how much for Residents?

Can't tell.

Will you swear that so much as 100l. was expended for Non-residents?

How can I tell whether an Out-voter drank or a Resident one.

Was the entertainment general?

On election days it was free for men, women, and children.

Then it was open house on those days?

The house was open as at other times; the gate was open, and doors open.

Was

Was it conducted then as now?—No; more bustle then.

Was every body entertained with meat and drink?

Every body who came helped themselves, men, women, and children.

By whose order did you give away your victuals and drink?—I never had any orders.

On whose credit or account did you do it?

I cannot put it to any body's account.

Did you keep no account of the liquor and provisions expended?

There is an account kept, but not to any particular person, an account of the quantity in books or on a slip of paper; there is no title to it.

Who desired you not to put one?—Nobody.

Was there any overlooker at your house on election days?

Yes.

Who?

There were two; I never asked their names; I do not know who sent them, and where they came from.

What did they do?

They observed what quantity of wine and liquor went out; that was their business I suppose; they were Freemen of Norwich I suppose.

Have they certified any quantity for you?

No; they kept their account, if there was a dozen of wine they made a dozen of strait marks.

Who has paid you the money you have received?

As I said before, different gentlemen ordered the bills, and the waiter brought me the money.

Did you ever receive any money from Mr. Hardingham?

I received my money from the waiter. I have received no money since the election, nor any security.

Were there any Out-voters quartered at your house?

Many came there; they came promiscuously.

Were there any appointed to come to your house?

No; none were brought to me.

Did not the number of In-voters very much exceed the Out-voters?

On the Saturday and Sunday more out people, but on the Friday more Norwich people free and not free, I believe so.

On the Friday and Saturday did they pay their reckonings?

No.

Were the provisions delivered to the overlookers?—Yes.

Had you any orders to treat resident Freemen?

I had neither orders to treat or not to treat; I never received any order whatever, they were all treated, men, women,



men and children, those who were free got as much as those who were not.

Who did treat?

The victuals and drink were got by the people as it was carried into the different rooms — There was only two people there to overlook and see what quantity went, all who came had victuals and drink if they could get it, the overlookers delivered out the victuals and drink, and I have been so imprudent as to do it without orders.

Do you believe the overlookers were appointed by Sir Thomas Beavor, or his friends? — No.

When you went to Johnson's coffee-house and paid your reckoning, did the others pay theirs also?

I cannot tell, the bill was called for, 'I paid my share and left the company.

In what part of Norwich is the King's-head?

In the center of the market-place.

Was it near the spot where the poll was taken?

Yes, a very little way off.

Is the house a large house?

As large a one as any in Norwich.

How many rooms are there for the entertainment of company? — Twelve or 14, besides a coffee-room.

Of what time of the morning of the election day did company begin to come to your house?

About seven or eight o'clock, many country voters were there on the Thursday night.

Were they entertained on the Thursday night?

Yes, some; some after refreshing themselves went to their relations, others staid; some sat up all night.

Were any carriages or horses belonging to Out-voters put up in your stables?

Yes, a great many; many came with their own horses, and some with chaises from my house.

Were any of the Out-voters sent back again by your chaises? — Yes, several.

Were any horses of Out-voters kept in your stables on election day?

Yes, several till Sunday morning, I believe some till Monday.

Is the charge for these chaise and horses of the Out-voters included in the sum of which you have given in, in the 450l.?

Yes.

Can you state the amount of the charge for the chaise and horses, or nearly, for these days?

No, it must be considerable.



Did you keep any separate account of the entertainments of Freemen as such?—No.

Or of Freeholders?—No, only one general account.

Then the expences of strangers were included in it?

Yes it must, there could be no regularity.

Was your house full of company all Friday?

Yes, very full, free and not free, the house and yard full, it was not so full on Saturday.

Were persons coming and going on Saturday?

Continually, there was company all Sunday, but less, they grew thinner, on Monday the house was quite clear of voters, it was considered as all at an end then.

What sum do you estimate the charge of the expences of the two election days, and of the Sunday after?

Upwards of 100l.

Was there any dinner at your house on Monday after the Member was chaired?

I think there was, I cannot speak positively.

What change was given out of the drafts?

There was change given out of one, but I cannot be sure as to both, or how much. I did give change out of one if not both, but cannot say what; I suppose it might be 10l. or 20l. I am inclined to think out of the 50l. draft.

Was any distinct account kept of the expence of the meetings, or did you send a bill up every day for the expence of the day?

There was no distinct account kept at all, different gentlemen requested I would send my bill, sometimes it went three or four days, I received my money of the waiter.

Was there a certain number of gentlemen who came, or were the rooms open to any friends who might come?

I always understood the friends of Mr. Hobart all had a right equally to go into the different rooms, no particular committee, the people who came asked where Mr. Hobart's friends were. If I was in the way, answered just as it happened.

Am I to understand then that the company varied on different days?

Yes, very much in persons and numbers.

Were there any select and fixed number that met?

There was not, I never understood any such thing.

Do you remember the circumstance of Mr. Hobart being chaired on the Monday?

Yes, I saw him after he was, I think the chairing was about twelve or one o'clock.

Do

Do you or not remember whether any party of his friends came to your house after?—Yes, I think there did.

Was any entertainment provided for them?

I cannot remember, I think there was, I am pretty sure there was.

When was it that the friends of Mr. Hobart first employed your chaises and horses?

I think two months before the election, very soon after it was understood there would be a canvas, horses and chaises to let the distant voters know.

If there was a dinner on the Monday did the gentlemen pay their reckonings?—I suppose they did.

Do you mean that those who varied in persons and numbers were those who dined or not?

I mean they were friends of Mr. Hobart who came to meet one another, sometimes morning, sometimes evening, from morning till dinner, and after dinner till night.

Did they sometimes meet when they did not dine?

The friends more or less in general had something to eat.

Was Mr. Bygrave one of those?

He was one of the gentlemen who used to be there frequently, he was not more than the rest.

What was the money due to you for?

For the last three days.—Withdrew.

JOSEPH HARDINGHAM, sworn.

I am a hot-preffer at Norwich.

Was you one of the Committee which conducted Mr. Hobart's election?—Yes.

Who were the rest?

Can't charge my memory with them all.

With any?—Yes.

What was the number?

I cannot say, for I was seldom in the Committee; my name was in the list; I do not know the number.

Were they strangers to you?—No.

How many days was you on this Committee?

Can't say exactly.

Can you remember any gentlemen of the Committee?

Alderman Partridge; I forget whether Mr. Roach was one, he was frequently backwards and forwards, but whether he was on the list I cannot tell.

Then you cannot remember any of them?

I cannot positively say who were; the gentlemen came backwards and forwards in the room, 50 perhaps. Alderman Day was one of the Committee.

Any other?—I cannot say with certainty.

Was Mr. J. Roach?

I believe not; I cannot say positively.

Was Mr. Hamp?—I believe his name was on.

Did you see him there?

Yes; backwards and forwards in the room; but that room where the Committee sat, I never was in while they did business; my name was on, but I did not attend.

Who applied to you to be of the Committee?—Nobody.

Who did you make the offer to?

A general meeting was called at the Swan, where I offered my service, and in consequence of that my name was taken.

Did Mr. Hobart know you was of that Committee?

Not that I know of.

In the course of the canvas and election, did you ever see Mr. Hobart?—Frequently.

Did you give him any account of your proceedings?

No.

Did you never communicate to Mr. Hobart what you did?

Yes; in some instances, not a regular account; some account I did of the transactions of the day.

Then from time to time, during the canvas and election, did you give Mr. Hobart an account of the transactions of the day?—Yes.

Were any public houses during the canvas, or at any other time at or before the election, opened for the entertainment of Freemen in the interest of Mr. Hobart?—Yes.

How many?—Cannot say.

Were fifty?

I cannot charge my memory with the number; I mean during the canvas and at the time of the election.

Were fifty?—I believe it might be fifty.

Was it sixty?

I cannot say the exact number, there might at some particular time be sixty during one part of the canvas.

Might there be seventy?

I do not believe the number ever amounted to seventy.

Were resident Freemen of Norwich entertained in those houses?—Yes.

At what time?—In the evening.

Of what days?—Cannot say.

Were they not entertained on the days of the canvas immediately preceeding the election, and on the days of election?—I believe they were.

When



When were the houses shut up?

I believe on the election day, after the election was over.

What may be the amount of all the bills for those houses?

It is impossible for me to say.

What was the whole expence of the bills at those houses?

Cannot say.

What was the expence of those bills for those houses?

Cannot say.

What was the expence of the election?

Four thousand pounds odd.

Do you mean to include in that the bills unpaid?—No.

What is the amount of the bills unpaid?—Do not know.

Can you give the Committee any account of what is yet unpaid?—No.

Are there bills to a considerable amount now unpaid?

I believe there are.

Is it a matter of doubt?

I never saw those bills; I never took them in; I never saw the book they were entered in, nor had any thing to do with it; I have not taken an account of unpaid bills; the book was a small one, they were all entered in by a clerk.

What is the name of that clerk?

James Goodwin; he enters all those bills. I only took notice of the bills paid, not those unpaid.

Then what was the amount of the bills paid?

Four thousand pounds odd.

Where is the book?

In Goodwin's custody; he is in Norwich; he was formerly clerk to a brewer; he came as a writer.

In whose service was he at the election?

Of the Committee so named; of which Committee I was one.

Did you pay any part of that four thousand pounds?

Yes, all; that was my account; I paid every thing, or nearly so.

On whose account did you pay the four thousand pounds odd?—Upon the Committee account for the election.

Do you mean to say, that you paid that money on your own account jointly with the others of the Committee?

Question objected to, as it may tend to criminate the witness.—Withdrew.

Question waved.—Called again.

Do you mean that you paid the money by the directions, or on the account of the Committee?—By their directions.

Then

Then on whose account did you pay the money?

On account of the Committee.

From whom did you receive that money?

Drafts drawn by Mr. Hamp, chiefly; all payable to me.

On whom?—Mr. Kerrison.

Do you recollect whether the drafts expressed on whose account they were drawn?

I believe all placed to the account of the Hon. Henry Hobart.

Was Mostyn John Armstrong of the Committee?

I believe not; I cannot positively say.

Was Mr. Thomas Day?—I believe he was.

Was Andrew Sealy?

Cannot positively say; the reason why he signed it was, that any gentleman I knew was empowered to draw such a bill I asked to sign the draft.

Then who were the persons that were empowered to draw bills on Mr. Kerrison's house, to be placed to the account of Mr. Hobart?—The Committee.

I applied to gentlemen of sufficient credit, that I thought Mr. Kerrison would take his note,

(Draft of Armstrong shewn him).

What led you to apply to Mr. Armstrong, he not being of the Committee?

Prior to Mr. Hamp, being the person appointed to draw all the bills, I applied to any gentleman who came backwards and forwards in the room to sign it.

N. B. The draft is dated the 4th September.

N. B. Hamp drew in August.

This bill was drawn by Mr. Hamp after that time; tho' Mr. Hamp was the general person, if he did not come in time, I got any gentleman who came to the room who were of our party; drawn on Mr. Hobart's account. I speak of the public rooms of the King's Head, not where the Committee sat; the drafts were mostly drawn there.

Did you ever intimate to Mr. Hobart that you was receiving the money for these drafts, and applying it as you were applying it?

Question objected to by the Counsel for the Sitting Member, as leading——Withdrew.

Counsel heard,

Resolved, That it is a leading question.

Witness called.

Did Mr. Hobart know of your receiving money for these drafts, and applying it as you did?—Not that I know of.

Withdrew——Adjourned.

Mercurii,

Mercurii, 21<sup>o</sup> Die, Feb. 1787.

Mr. HARDINGHAM, sworn.

Have you any reason to believe that Mr. Hobart knew of your receiving that money, and applying it in that manner?

No, I believe not; I believe he did not know of it.

Where was Mr. Hobart at this time?

Sometimes in the room backwards and forwards, and sometimes in the country; the public Committee-room.

Was Mr. Hobart ever in any of those public houses in which the resident Freemen were entertained?

Yes, I believe he was; I do not know he ever was but in one when I saw him, that I can speak positively to; I have been in there now and then; half a dozen times.

Who opened them?

They were opened by order of the Committee.

Was that Committee for the purpose of managing Mr. Hobart's election?—Yes.

What is the amount of the unpaid bills?

Cannot tell. I know Mr. Hamp.

What part did he take in this election?

He drew those bills payable to me.

What else?

I do not know; that was all I had to do with him; he was frequently up and down in the room talking of indifferent matters, in the Committee-room; nothing else that I know, particularly; generally making memorandums of the returns of the canvas in the minute book we kept.

(The bill for 73l. payable to Mrs. Harrison shewn him.)

What was that for?

Expences incurred at a house in Swaffham, which she kept for bringing Voters.

Was it for maintaining them in the house, or for bringing them?

They assembled at that house from different parts of the country, in order to be brought to Norwich.

How far is Swaffham from Norwich?

I think thirty or thirty-two miles; I cannot particularly say, as to the people there, whether it was London Voters, or confined to Norfolk Voters, I cannot say.

(A bill for 300l. payable to Booth, shewn him.)

I cannot say what this was for. I know Mr. Charles Leftley.

Did he take any part in the election?

What



What part he might take I cannot say; I had now and then a draft given me to enter in my book as paid to Mr. Leftley. I kept a book of what monies were expended.

Where is it?

I cannot say; it is not my book. it is the book of the Committee; it was in my custody till the election was over.

Where did you part with it?

I was not at home when it was sent back to the Committee, it was sent for when I was not at home.

When?—About a fortnight or three weeks ago.

Who sent?—Don't know.

Did not you ask when you came home?

I did not miss it for a day or two, when I asked for it they said a man came for it, who said he was sent for it by the Committee.—I know Mr. Bygrave's hand.

(A letter shewn him.)

This is Mr. Bygrave's hand, and this is Mr. Hobart's at the bottom.

Do you remember when this order for opening the houses was given, was it in July?

I believe the first was towards the end of July.

Before the notice of the writ came to Norwich?—Yes.

Do you know of any order being given particularly to entertain resident Freemen?

Yes, the order was given on the top of each bill.

Are there any of those bills here?—No.

Do you mean by bill the order?

The names of the Freemen were all written under the order, the bills were examined by the Committee and paid by me under the order of the Committee.—There might be about 50 houses open on the election days, I never saw any particular orders for opening them on these two days.

Do you know how many houses were opened for Sir Thomas Beevor on the election days?

No, but numbers were.

Who resorted to these houses, did resident Freemen?

And many others that were not free, I have seen people who were not free; men, women and children: I had the curiosity to go into two houses.

Did you see no resident Freemen?

Yes, and others, wives and families.—At Swaffham the voters assembled, it is in the way from Lynn to Norwich.

Do you know the reason why the voters were detained there for some days frequently?—No.

Was it the same in other houses opened by the Committee, free and not free.

I have



I have seen them in the same house but not in the same room.

Do you remember any other contested election at Norwich?—Yes.

Were they conducted in the same way as the last?

The same way for what I know.

Do you recollect an election when Sir Thomas Beever was candidate before?

Yes, but I know nothing about it, I never attended the Committee above once or twice.

Was it of a select number, or open to all friends of Mr. Hobart who might come there?

The first meeting, which was called the Committee, was a very numerous one, out of which the select Committee was chosen.

Do you mean when you said you was on the list of the Committee, that you was of that select Committee chosen out of the general meeting?—I was.

Mr. PIGOT. Where are the bills you paid to the public houses?

I do not know where they are now, they were not left in my possession.

What business are you?—A hot-presser.

Who delivered that book?

My wife, out of an open closet in which I usually put those matters, I do believe she did not know who she gave it to, I never asked her.

When were the houses shut up?

Immediately after the election closed.

If there had been any intermediate orders for shutting them should you not have known it?

Most likely not, I only had to pay them.

Should you have paid any bills after the order given for shutting up, if the publicans had given entertainments?

No, most certainly not, I never paid any bills till they were passed by the Committee; I had an order from the Committee to pay all the publicans bills till the writ came down. I paid no publicans bills after the writ came down.

How long was the writ down before the election?

Ten days or a fortnight.

Then you paid no bills for the entertainment of resident Freemen from the time the writ came down till the close of the election?—No.

Did the houses continue open?—Yes, I believe they did.

Who paid the bills?—They are not paid.

Why?—I can't say.

3. Was there a private Committee-room where the Select Committee met?—Yes.

Was the order verbal, or written, to pay the bills?

Verbal; never one in writing.

Here is money made payable to you on the 14th day of September, how did you apply it; 50l.

Some to the chairmen; I believe the general bill for the chairmen amounted to 200l.

There is another for 100l. the same day, what was that applied to?

There was a general bill for chairmen of 200l. There were many other single chairmen; the general bill was paid at one house.

Then are you clear that no part of this money received by you, between the date of the writ and the close of the election, was paid for entertainments of resident Freemen?

Very positive.

Did you pay any bills from the time you had notice of Lord Suffield's being made a Peer till the close of the poll?

To the best of my knowledge there was none; not from the time of the notice in the Gazette.

What was the last day on which you paid a publicans bill at Norwich?

To the best of my knowledge, not one since the Speaker's notice was known to us at Norwich.

When was you apprized of the notice?

I cannot positively say, but within two or three days after the issuing of the notice.

Were there any publicans paid after you heard the notice of Lord Suffield's being made a Peer?

After we heard the notice of his being to be made a Peer, but not after the notice of his being so, the article in the Gazette was the first public notice we had, and immediately then, after the Committee gave a notice that no such bills should be paid.

Was it the positive order of the Committee, that the publicans bills for entertainment of resident Freemen should not be paid after the Speaker's notice?

Yes: I received it verbally in the room.

Did they give any orders to the houses which you have said were opened by the direction of the Committee, not to give any entertainment to the resident Freemen from the time of the Speaker's notice?

I do not know; only that there was no bill ordered to be paid.

Was

Was it likely you would have known of such an order, had it been given?—Most likely I should.

You know of the order given for shutting up the houses after the election?—No; only by report.

What, did you hear it from no Committee-man?—No.

Were they actually shut up?

I know those near where I live were.

Were they shut from the time of the notice in the Gazette till the election or open?—Open.

Do you recollect the time when the creation of Sir Harbord Harbord to be Lord Suffield was notified in the Gazette?

No; not the day; no bills were paid to the publicans after the notification in the Gazette was known in Norwich, to the best of my knowledge.

Here are drafts to the amount of 2600*l.* and upwards, between the Speaker's notice arriving in Norwich, and the teste of the writ. Inform the Committee to what purpose that money was applied by you?

I cannot say exactly the whole of the articles; but chairmen, stavesmen, patrole, chaises, coaches, and the country Voters expences, part of Londoners expences; these are the heads, besides other very small articles.

Do you mean to say, upon your oath, that no part of this 2600*l.* was applied for the entertainment of resident Freemen?

Not for the opening of houses; the Nomination Day was, I believe, included; the Election Day bill is not paid.

Was it for the continuance of the entertainment at the houses which were opened during this period?—No.

When was the Nomination Day?—On 5th September.

Had you any particular order from the Committee to pay the bill for the Nomination Day?

I cannot say I know I had any particular orders.

But you are positive of this 2600*l.* none was applied for paying bills, for keeping houses open?—Yes.

Was the order from the Committee for not paying bills, after the notice came, given to you particularly?

I never had any order particularly.

Then you do not understand that there are any sums of money due for houses open after that time?—Oh, Yes.

Explain what you meant by saying, that your orders from the Committee were not to pay any of those bills after the Writs came down; having since said, that you was ordered to pay none after the Speaker's notice appeared in the Gazette?



That was my mistake in the term; I meant it from the Speaker's notice in the Gazette.

Do you mean to say, that you paid no publicans' bills after you was apprised of the Speaker's notice in the Gazette, or that you paid no publicans' bills for entertainment had by resident Freemen after you were made acquainted with such notice?

None for the Freemen; there were some for publicans at a distance in the country, that were not brought till that time.

You say you were not made acquainted with the notice in the Gazette till a day or two after it had appeared? Yes.

Did you not then pay the expences that were incurred by the entertainment of resident Freemen on Saturday after you were made acquainted with such notice?—No.

Then are we to understand that the bills for entertainment of resident Freemen, for the 26th of August, remain unpaid at this time?—Yes.

What were the bills on the Nomination Day, were they publicans' bills?

Only one; the King's Head; where the general meetings of the friends of Mr. Hobart's friends.

Was that bill paid after you received the Speaker's notice of the vacancy?—Yes; it was.

You then acted under a general order to pay bills?—Yes.

Had you any particular order not to pay that bill?—No.

What was the amount of it?—I cannot tell.

Was it paid by draft?—Yes; I believe so.

On what day?—I believe the next, or next but one.

There is a bill on the 8th of Sept. for 50l. to Raven, and, I believe, it was made up in cash. I paid the bill for the Nomination Day!

Was it for an entertainment?

No, a general meeting for all the friends of Mr. Hobart, to meet and go to the hall; no dinner that I know of.

And you paid no other bills for entertainment that day?

None; nor any bill for resident Freemen's entertainment; the money at the King's Head was for the expences of the meeting; the whole house was full.

How much money do you apprehend to be due for entertainments after the Speaker's notice was known.

I don't know; that was done by another person, and I know nothing about it; it was a man hired on purpose to sit in a room where they were to be brought to him.

By



By whom hired ?

Ordered by the Committee I imagine ; I saw him sitting in the room.

I told Mr. Hobart from time to time the orders minuted down in a book for that purpose, of what Voters had been promised, and what gentlemen he was to call upon in order to procure their votes.

Was not the payment of those bills the daily transaction ?

Yes, part of them ; I paid them by order of the Committee.

Then you meant us to understand, that the payment of these bills was the only transaction you did not communicate to Mr. Hobart ?—Certainly.

Why did you not communicate that amongst others ?

Mr. Hobart never asked me any thing about it.

Then did you communicate to Mr. Hobart no transaction but those he asked you about ?

Not generally ; sometimes I did.

If you sometimes did, what reason had you for not communicating this of bills drawn on his account ?

I understood that to be no part of Mr. Hobart's business ; I was desired to give that account to the Committee.

When you say you was desired to give it to the Committee, do you mean to say you were desired not to give it to Mr. Hobart ?

No ; the payment of the bills was my particular business ; I offered to do that part.

Then do you mean us to understand, that the only transaction you did not communicate to Mr. Hobart, was that particular part of the business you had undertaken ?

Yes ; as it might happen that I communicated all the other transactions but that of the money.

Do you look on the Committee from whom you received your orders as quite unconnected with Mr. Hobart ?

I look on them as the Committee, appointed by themselves to manage the election with Mr. Hobart's knowledge.

Question repeated.—Yes ; quite.

Do you remember the Committee ordering Mr. Goodwin to take an account of the unpaid bills ?

No ; he was writing in the room very frequently, great part of the time.

Do you mean he was employed by the Committee the whole of their sittings ?—No ; only a part.

For what part and from what time ?

I can't say ; for some few days we had an attorney's clerk

clerk, then another young person, and then this man was appointed, and continued for the time of the election.

Was he in employment by the Committee before the notice of the vacancy?—Yes.

And continued to be employed till the end of the election. Withdrew.

### JOHN CHR. HAMP sworn.

I am a merchant at Norwich; I have lived there about nine years; I keep cash at Mr. Kerrison's.

Did you during the months of July, August, and September, draw on Mr. Kerrison's for any sums of money on the account of Mr. Hobart?—Yes.

Had you ever drawn from Mr. Hobart's account prior to that period?

I never drew on his account till the contest.

Can you state the amount of the drafts you drew on account of the election?—Not exactly; 3000*l.* thereabouts.

Can you state nearly how much was drawn by others on that account?—No; I have seen others drawn.

Was you one of the Select Committee of Mr. Hobart, for the managing and conducting of his election?

I was one of Mr. Hobart's Select Committee.

Did he occasionally attend the meetings of that Committee?—I have seen him come in now and then.

Frequently?—Sometimes at the Select Committee.

State the names of the Select Committee?

Moystyn: John Armstrong, Alderman Gay, Alderman Partridge, Mr. Starling Day, Mr. Robert Harvey, senior and junior; Mr. Robinson, Mr. Sealy; Clover and Roach were not of the Select Committee; I do not know their names.

What was the number of the Select Committee.

Twelve to fifteen.

Was Mr. Hardingham one?—Yes.

Where did it usually meet?—At the King's Head.

Did the Select Committee meet in the same room with the other Committee, or had they a separate room to themselves?

Sometimes they were in the same room, there was a curtain drawn when they chose to be private, in the same room.

Name some of the persons employed by the Select Committee in the business of the election?

We call them runners, I don't know their names.

Did you pay Mr. Wymier any money on account of the election?—I cannot recollect.

Do

Do you know of the payment on account of Mr. Hobart on the election to Wymer by any other person?—No.

State in what manner the 3000*l.* drawn for by you was applied?

For the purpose of paying the expence of the election.

Did you pay any bills of inn-keepers or publicans at Norwich?—Small matters I have paid.

To what amount?—20*l.* to 30*l.* I paid no more myself.

How much of the money, which you drew for, do you know was paid by others to inn-keepers and publicans at Norwich?—Don't know.

Do you know whether any part was?

I remember there is a bill for Mrs. Harrison, I drew a draft for it.

To whom did you deliver that draft?—I don't recollect.

Did you draw the draft in the Select Committee?

I believe not.

Where then?

I do not recollect; it may be in the Committee.

Do you recollect the particulars of Mrs. Harrison's demand for that money?—No; it was for expences.

Do you know for what purpose that payment of 73*l.* 16*s.* was made?—For expences as I said before.

For expences of what nature?

Of the Voters at Swaffham.

What Voters do you mean?

Of the London Voters which were at Swaffham.

How many?—Don't know.

When were they at Swaffham?—Previous to the election.

How long?—Can't tell how many days.

Was it the day before the election, or the day before that?

Two or three days before the election for what I know.

Have you Mrs. Harrison's bill?—I have not.

Who has?

It is lodged with the papers of the Committee.

What person has the custody of those papers?

Don't know.

What person had the custody of them when you saw them last?—The clerk.

Who was the clerk?—Goodwin.

Was he clerk to the Committee?—Yes.

By whom was he employed?—The Committee.

Was he employed during the whole contest?—Yes.

Did the Committee keep any minutes or memorandums of their transactions or proceedings?

They



They had books, memorandums of what was done day by day.

Were these books open to all the members of the Select Committee?—Yes, they might look at them.

Did the Committee from time to time inform Mr. Hobart of what was doing?—He was present very frequently.

Did he assist in considering what was right to be done, and of the proper steps to be taken?

He left it to the management of his friends and the Committee.

Did he from time to time assist you in talking of the business?—He did talk over the state of the canvas.

Was he informed of the state of the cash from time to time, and of the drafts drawn by the Committee on his account?—Don't know.

Was the account kept in the books of the Committee?

There were books of account kept.

Do you mean to be understood that you drew 3000*l.* out of Mr. Hobart's money without telling him of it; did he authorise you to draw?—The Committee.

(A draft of his shewn him.)

Do you mean, that you drew this draft for 300*l.* and others to the amount of 3000*l.* on the account of Mr. Hobart without informing him of it?

I drew this 300*l.* without informing him of it, and the rest as I had direction from the Committee, as it was wanted; Mr. Hobart might have been present when those drafts were drawn.

Have you any doubt but that Mr. Hobart knew day by day the state of the cash, and the amount of the drafts each day?—I don't believe Mr. Hobart could know.

Did he know from time to time that you and the Select Committee were drawing out his money: Did he know the Committee were drawing drafts from time to time on Mr. Kerrison on his account, for the purposes of the election?

Mr. Hobart left all to his Committee.

Did he leave to his Committee the authority to draw the money?

He left the whole management to his Committee, and as a part of that management the money was drawn, Mr. Hobart sometimes present.

(Draft to Booth shewn him.)

Do you know one Booth?—Yes.

Who is he?—Waiter at the Swan.

Was the Swan a house used during the contest and election by Mr. Hobart's friends?—Yes.

Who

Who is the landlord?—Tilbury.

On what account did you make this payment of 300l. to Booth?—I paid it to Leftley myself.

What is Leftley's Christian name?—Charles.

Who is he?—The manager of the London Voters.

Employed by whom?—Mr. Hobart.

Will you explain why this draft for 300l. a payment to Leftley, was made payable to Booth and not to Leftley?

Because Leftley was not there, I desired Booth to go to Mr. Kerrison's and fetch the money, because I knew him, and I afterwards paid the money to Leftley.

(Bill 22d Aug. 50l. by the witness to Leftley shewn him.)

There is my writing; I believe it to be Leftley's, and I have seen him write. (Bill 28th Aug. 50l. shewn him.)

There is my writing.

(Bill 1st Sept. 50l. ditto.) There is my writing.

(Bill 7th Sept. 100l. ditto.) There is my hand.

(Draft 19th Sept. 100l. by witness on Kerrison shewn him.)

There is my hand.

Did you make these several payments to Leftley as one of Mr. Hobart's Select Committee?

Yes, I was one, and in that character did it.

For what purpose, and on what account?

On Mr. Hobart's account; election account.

Did you pay any other money to Leftley on this account?

I cannot recollect.

For what purpose of the election were they paid to Leftley?

On account of the London Voters. No bill was delivered by Leftley.

Was there no account delivered in by Leftley to discharge himself of this sum?—I have seen none.

Was it money paid to him, to be used by him, at his discretion, on account of this election?

It was paid and remitted to him on account of Mr. Hobart's election.

Do you know of any other money paid or remitted to Leftley by any other person on this account?—No.

Do you know Thomas Tilbury?—Yes.

(Draft payable to him 28th August, for 49l. 6s. shewn him.)

On what account was that payment of 49l. made to him?

I do not know; I was desired by Mr. Hardingham to sign it.

Can you name any houses in Norwich which were opened by the Committee for the entertainment of Freeman?

H

The

The Vallant Dragon, the Tiger and the Trumpet in my parish.  
How many parishes are there in Norwich?—Can't tell.

When were these houses opened?—Can't tell.

How soon after the first meeting of the Committee?

I cannot recollect.

Was it one of the first things done?—Yes; done early.

How long did they continue open after that order?

Can't tell.

Did they continue open to the election and during the election?—Some were open during the election.

Do you know of any order for shutting them after they were once opened?

I know nothing of public houses; I do not know any orders were given at all.

Do you mean when you say they were opened early, that you knew that as a member of the Committee?

I saw the publicans coming backwards and forwards for orders, and were paid.

Coming frequently during the contest for orders?

They were coming for orders from the beginning of the contest, how long I cannot exactly tell.

Were the houses opened from the first orders all the time of the election?—Can't tell.

Do you know of any order to prevent them being open?

Yes.

When?

There was an order given to the best of my knowledge, that they should not be open when the writ came down.

When was that order given; how long before the election?—Can't tell.

By whom?—Don't know.

To whom?—Can't tell.

Was it given to the publicans as far as you know?

I have heard so merely.

Do you know whether any of them in your parish ceased to treat?—I cannot remember indeed.

If they had left off a week before the election, is it not likely you would have known it?

As far as I know they were treating to the time of the election, and during the election.

Do you mean the houses in your own parish, or all such as you passed in the town, did it appear that they all continued treating down to the election?

It appeared to me they were always eating and drinking.

Did you ever attend Mr. Hobart or his friends to any of the meetings of the Freemen?

Yes,



Yes; frequently, to visit houses, to supper clubs, &c.  
How often in a week did Mr. Hobart usually attend such meetings?

I was with him twice or three times; he did not always go himself.

Did you sometimes go without Mr. Hobart?—I did.

Which was the last night before the election that you was at one of these clubs?—Can't recollect.

Was you at any after the writ came?—Can't tell.

Was you at any within a fortnight before the election?

I believe I might.

At what house, and at what time?—Can't tell.

Can you state the name of the house to which Mr. Hobart went?—Mr. Hobart did not sup.

Did you ever sup with the Freeman?—No.

How many houses might you go round to with Mr. Hobart to visit in one night?

Twenty and upwards; the friends of Mr. Hobart were entertained, Freeman as far as I know; I do not know whether they were or not.

Have you ever heard from Mr. Hobart that they were Freeman of Norwich.

I have heard them called his friends, and supposed they were from the conversation with Mr. Hobart.

How many persons did they generally consist of?

Twelve, fourteen, twenty.

Had they supper and liquor?—Yes.

By whose orders?—The Committee.

At whose expence?—All paid on account of Mr. Hobart.

Out of the money deposited at Kerrison's?—I believe so.

Were they paid by draft of the Committee?—Yes.

Was you at the King's Head on the election days?

I was not to the best of my knowledge.

Can you state of the overlookers who were appointed by the Committee?

No; I have seen Mr Wymer, an attorney at Norwich.

Was he member of the Committee?—No.

Was he ever there?—Can't say; I never saw him there.

Can you state how much is now due on account of the election?—No.

Have the bills been brought into the Committee?

Some might.

(Draft 18th Sept. for 500l. shewn him.)

To whom did you deliver that draft?

I received it myself.

How did you dispose of that 500l.?

I delivered it to the different people employed in the different parishes to pay the stavesmen.

How many stavesmen were appointed?

Some more, some less, according to the parish.

How many in all?—Perhaps above 2000.

How many of them were Freemen?

I do not believe there were any Freemen.

Was the whole of that 500l. applied for these stavesmen?

Pretty nearly. There was a friend appointed in each parish to appoint the stavesmen, and I paid him his demand, if afterwards more were employed they were paid since.

Did you never dine or sup at the clubs?—I may.

Did you pay your own reckonings?

I have at the King's-head, and Swan, and paid my own reckoning. The clubs were all paid by the Committee, and were entertainments for Freemen.

Do you remember when the first meeting of Mr. Hobart's friends was?—No.

Was it not in July?—It might.

Do you remember a letter coming to the Mayor of Norwich from Sir H. H. that he was to be made a peer.

Yes.

Was the first meeting of the friends of Mr. Hobart after that letter was received?—After, but when I can't recollect.

Do you know whether the gentlemen who met, assembled of their own accord, or by the request of any person in particular?—I know nothing of it.

Do you know if they met at the request of Mr. Hobart?

I know nothing of it.

Was you at the first meeting?—I believe I was.

Was any Book kept in the Committee of the state of the canvas from time to time?—Yes.

Were there minutes made in that book by order of the Committee?—Yes.

Was it open for the inspection of all members of the Committee, or was it confined to the Select Committee?

Open to all.

Was it from time to time communicated to Mr. Hobart?

It was.

Was he acquainted from time to time of what was necessary to be done respecting the application to voters?

I suppose he was.

By whose order was it that you drew on Mr. Kerrison?

By order of the Committee.

Was

Was the book in which the state of the canvas was kept, distinct from the account of drafts drawn from time to time on Mr. Kerrison?—Withdrew.

Question being objected to.—Question waved.

Witness called again.

Was the account of cash kept by you?

I have kept part of that account, Mr. Hardingham the other part.

Did you keep the account of the amount of bills drawn by yourself?

I kept an account of what money I received myself.

Then Mr. Hardingham kept the account of the money he received?—Yes.

What might be the amount of the money received by you yourself?—From 1000l. to 1100l.

Is the 650l. paid to Leftley part of that?—No.

Is the draft for 500l. for stavesmen part of that?—Yes.

How did you dispose of the remainder of that sum?

For runners, paying small publican's bills, patrol, and a bill of 30l. to Mr. Bygrave, and post chaise hire; and various other small articles, some for ribbons, and coach hire.

Do you know how many London voters were sent down by Mr. Leftley?—No.

Were there or not, orders given to publicans who had opened their houses, that they should not continue to keep them open?—I understood there were.

Was you present when such were given?—No.

Are there some bills still unpaid?—Yes.

Did Mr. Hardingham usually attend the Committee?

He was generally there, as frequent as I was.

Was he there almost every day?

Very frequently in the same room.

Did he take part in the business?

A different part, he generally was employed on something.

Withdrew.—Adjourned.

Jovis, 22<sup>o</sup> Die, Feb. 1787.

JAMES MORRELL, sworn.

I keep the Tiger public-house in Norwich.

Was you employed in the election?

No, not as a runner, nor stavesman.

Was your house open at all?—Yes.

When?

The course of the election, the course of the canvas.

When



When was it shut?—When the writs came down.

When did the writs come?

On the Sunday, I forget the day of the month.

Was no voters entertained at your house after the Sunday that the writ came?—No.

But until the Sunday?

My house was open till the Saturday night.

For how many weeks down to the Saturday night was your house open?—About seven.

Every day for these seven weeks?—Once a week.

Was it a supper or dinner?—Supper.

For whom?—A parcel of Freemen of Norwich,

Who opened this house of yours?

Mr. Hardingham, I went up to the Committee for the orders as well as another publican.

What Committee do you mean?

That which managed Mr. Hobart's election.

When you went up to the Committee, who did you see there?

Several gentlemen, Mr. Hardingham, Mr. Hamp, I know no other; I know Mr. Hobart, I never saw him there.

Was Mr. Hobart at any of these meetings?

Twice, he never supped there, I never saw him drink; he was there sometimes before they were eating and drinking, sometimes while they were eating and drinking.

How many other houses were opened?—I do not know.

How many other publicans went to the Committee-room for orders to open their houses?—Dont know.

What did you mean then by saying you went as other publicans did?

I went with my neighbours, and walked with them; I have been with John Davis a sort of times for orders.

Who else?

Not any particular. Davis keeps the Coachmakers Arms.

Are you paid your bill?—No.

What, no part?—Not a halfpenny of all.

Have you received nothing for all these suppers?

Oh, yes, before the writ came down; but for what was eat and drank since I have not been paid.

How much is due to you since the writs?

Eleven guineas and 7s. 6d.

Is that the whole?—Yes.

For how many suppers is that?—Suppers and dinners.

How many suppers and dinners?

I believe three dinners and three suppers.

How much were you paid for before the writ came?

I cannot

I cannot tell; we used to be paid off every Monday morning, by Mr. Hardingham, sometimes 20s. and sometimes 30s.

Can you tell me any of the names that used to sup with you?

Norwich Freemen; sometimes strangers came; I know my next door neighbours.

Name three, four or five?

Sam Adcock, Mark Duffel; they are Freemen of Norwich; Defevre was there. I could name 8 or 10 more.

Where was you paid?

At the King's Head; they used to say there was a Committee-room; there was a curtain in it against the windows.

Was you paid behind the curtain?—No.

On what days were these three dinners given, for which you are not paid?—Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

What Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday?

Before the election came on, after the writ came down.

Who is to pay you the 11 guineas and 7s. 6d.

I do not know any more than the dead.

Have you booked it?—I got a friend to book it.

In whose name did you order that friend to book it?

Nobodys particular.

Have you made any application to be paid?

No; nor do not know where to go for it.

Had you an order in writing, or a verbal one to open your house?

I had none at all; I went to the Committee, and asked if they would give me an order to open my house; and they told me no. I never had a written order at all, nor no order from no gentleman.

Why have you not applied for the 11 guineas and 7s. 6d.

I leave it to the honor of the gentlemen; if they do not pay me, I cannot come into it; I hope they will; I mean Mr. Hobart's Committee by the gentlemen.

During the election, was your house open?

Yes; on the election days; only Friday not on Saturday; all Friday, for all comers and goers.

Was your house open on any other day, except on a Saturday before the writ came down?

Only once a week, that was on a Saturday night.

Who gave you orders to open your house on the Saturday?

The Committee.

Did you ever receive orders from Mr. Hobart to that effect?—Never.

Do you mean to speak to the whole of the time, when you say Mr. Hobart never gave you any orders?—Yes.

Did

Did you apply for the payment of your bills once a week?  
Yes; to the Committee.

On what day of the week did you apply?

On Monday morning; Mr. Hardingham used to pay me.

Did you go to a public room in the King's Head for that purpose?—Yes; there used to be a room.

Did you receive your bills in that room?—Yes.

Was it a large room?—Yes.

Was you paid publicly, or was there any secrecy in the manner of giving you the money?

Two or three of us went in together.

Was there any curtain which separated a part of that room from the rest?—I never took notice.

Was it open room?—Yes.

Was there other persons in the room, besides Mr. Hardingham, when you applied for your money?—One or two.

Did you receive general orders for opening your house every Saturday, or did you receive those orders every week?  
Every week.

Did you apply every week for fresh orders?—Yes.

Did you apply for an order after the writ came down?  
Yes.

Was it given?—Refused.

Am I then to understand that during the election week the house was open without any orders from the Committee?

Oh yes; I had no orders from no gentleman.

In what parish is your house?—St. Stephens.

Are there any other public houses in that parish near yours?—The Coachmakers Arms.

Are there any others?—The Golden Lion close by.

Were there any houses in your parish open for the friends of Sir Thomas Beevor?—The George.

Do you know of your own knowledge the George was so opened?—To the best of my knowledge.

Do you know of any other house?—No.

At the time of the election, was there any mark put upon the public-houses to denote in whose interest such houses were opened?

Boards about the street; none over my house; I did not see there was one over the George.

When did you make that application to have your house opened after the writ came down?—Monday morning.

Who did you apply to?

The Committee; to Mr. Hardingham; he told me no.

What passed?

I asked



I asked him, whether I could have an order to day to have my house open; and he told me, he did not do any such thing.

Was that all?

Yes; I went away, and yet I opened my house; Mr. Hardingham said, he could give no order.

Did Mr. Hardingham order you not to open your house?

Yes; he told me he could do nothing in it.

Question repeated.

He told me, I might do as I liked.

Is it your usual custom, at all times, to entertain persons at your house, without any order for so doing; and without knowing to whom you are to apply for the money. Why did you do so now at the time of an election, if you did not do so at other times?

I ran the hazard of that. I heard the landlord of the George say his house was open. The writ came down on the Sunday; I am sure the Sunday before the election day.

Withdrew.

#### JOHN DAVY, sworn.

I keep a public-house, the Coachmakers Arms at St. Stephen's gate, in St. Stephen's parish.

Was your house open during the last contest?

Before the writ came down I went to the King's Head and received orders.

When did you go to the King's Head for orders?

Can't tell.

How long before the writ came down?

The week before, I cannot tell the day.

How long before the election did you first receive orders to open your house?—I do not know.

What orders did you receive?

An order for a shilling a head each man to drink, as many as chose to come to my house.

Do you mean every night?—No; once a week.

What night?—Wednesday.

How many Wednesdays did you give these treats?

Can't tell; it might be seven or eight weeks, it was seven I dare say, at rs. a head.

How many Freemen usually came?

From nine to fourteen; sometimes not above three or four.

Had they a supper at your house?

Twice at the latter part; the allowance they thought was not enough, and it was increased 6d. a night for a supper,

and they added it out of their pockets 6d. to the Committee's shilling.

When did the writ come?

On the Saturday or Sunday before the election.

Was you paid for those suppers?

The money for the suppers they paid; I was paid the shilling weekly. We took the bill in on the Thursday and Mr. Hardingham paid, at the King's Head.

Did you give any entertainments after the Sunday before the election?

No, not by any order, nothing given, they had victuals and drink Monday and Tuesday after the writ came down, I gave it myself, I promised a supper for them to the value of 1s. or 1s. 6d. a head.

How many might sup at your house on Monday?

My room will not hold above twenty; there were not so many; there was no dinner.

Any breakfast?—No, only supper.

On Tuesday how many might sup?

I cannot tell; I kept no account.

Did the Freeman pay any thing towards their suppers on Monday or Tuesday?—No.

Did you apply for any order for these two suppers?

I applied to the Committee at the King's Head as usual, they said they could give me no orders, I must do as I pleased:

Did they forbid you to give any suppers?

No; they told me if I chose to give suppers and run the risk of being paid I might; I was dubious and afraid, but I thought some gentleman would take notice and pay me for it; they were much the same suppers as before.

How much might they cost you?

I cannot tell, it is so long ago, I kept no account of it at all.

Was there any entertainment at your house on the Wednesday?

I do not recollect any; there was none till Friday, I had a dinner.

Who dined?—Fourteen or fifteen.

Did they pay?

Not for their dinner; they paid for some liquor, and left some unpaid.

How much did it amount to?—I cannot tell.

Have you been paid for that or the suppers on Monday or Tuesday?

No;

No ; I never received a halfpenny after the writ.

Have you been allowed it in account with any body ?

My brewer let me have beer to go on with because I had no money.

Who is your brewer ?—John Day.

Do you know whether he was one of Mr. Hobart's Committee ?

I have seen him three or four times at the King's Head, I never saw him sit there ; I never spoke to him above once.

How much beer has Mr. Day allowed you ?

I had two loads of beer. I generally take two loads and pay all ; I was short of money for want of my bills being paid.

For want of what bills being paid ?

The bills I had for those providings on Monday and Tuesday, and till the election was over.

How much has Mr. Day allowed you on this account ?

No sum in particular, I paid him what I had.

How much did you pay when he gave you credit for the two loads ?

He always gives me credit for two loads, when I pay for those I had before.

How many deliveries of two loads have you had since you paid last ?—Only two since I made my last.

State whether a certain sum has not been allowed to you in beer or money for these entertainments by Mr. Day ?

Two loads of beer I had to go on with my business as usual.

Do you mean that two loads were delivered for which you made no payment ?

I made part of a payment, twenty guineas, there were three loads.

What is the value of two loads ?—21l. 4s.

State whether you have not named to Mr. Day, or some of his partners or clerks, a particular sum on the account of these entertainments ?—Yes.

What sum for them after the writ came down ?

Near 17l.

Do not you believe it was more than 17l ?

Not more, under.

Has not that sum been allowed to you in your beer account ?

He let me have beer as I told you before, and he took the copy of the bill, which was delivered to the Committee, and told me I will let you have beer, and told me when I got my bill paid, I must pay him the money.



How soon after the election did you give that bill to the Committee?—Near a fortnight.

To whom did you deliver it?

To several gentlemen, I saw Mr. Hardingham in the room, as he usually used to be; I did not know him till I was told his name, in what they called the Committee-room at the King's Head.

Did any other publicans attend at the same time with their bills?—I did not see any.

Did your friend make any title to that bill?

No title, only a neighbour of mine wrote it for me, he began from the Monday, and so till the end of the election; I was not paid at the Committee, Mr. Day was not present.

Did you at the time you delivered your bill ask to be paid?

I asked when I might call again; they told me they could not tell, they would let me know.

Did you, when you gave the copy to Mr. Day, give any receipt for it?

No, I did not make out any bill till after all was over; I made out a bill at last, I gave it to the Committee, and a copy to Mr. Day. I know Mr. Roach, I have seen him in the Committee-room twice.

Did you ever see him canvassing?—No.

Did any person come to your house to see the Freeman supping?

Mr. Hobart came once when they had drink.

What did he do?—I don't know.

Did any of the Committee come?

Not that I know of; Mr. Hardingham did not.

Who came with Mr. Hobart?

Can't tell; I am a Freeman.

Did Mr. Hobart ever give you any orders?

I never spoke to him; I had my orders from the King's Head, what they called the Committee-room.

What room did Mr. Hardingham pay you in?

A large room at the King's Head.

Were there any of the company divided by a curtain?

No; Mr. Hardingham never took me into a private room. Mr. Day let me have those two loads of beer on credit, and when I took him a copy of the bill, he told me, when I got paid he expected to be paid again.

Did Day undertake to pay the bill?

No; he let me have beer as I told you. Mr. Thompson is Mr. Day's partner; I have my beer from that office.

Can you tell in whose interest Thompson was?

Sir

Sir Thomas Beevor's.

Had you never credit before this?

Yes; I used to go for two loads, and pay for it; I always had credit for two; at a chance time, once in a year, three; this is not the only time I had three to pay.

Do you know of any house opened for Sir Thomas Beevor?

Yes; one in at the gate, the Bull; only know as people told me.

Do you remember any thing of any boards being up at the houses, shewing whose interest they were in?

Yes; there was "Beevor" at the Bull, and at the Trowel and Hammer; I can read printing, not writing, a long board and large letters.

The Committee-room was open, there were numbers of people backwards and forwards, the people said it was for persons in Mr. Hobart's interest.

Did you always take your beer from Day's house?

Yes, for six years come May.

When was your house shut on account of the election?

Friday or Saturday before the writ came down. My house was open but without orders on the election.

When did you shut it up for good?—Saturday night.

I drew beer for Freemen of my own accord, voluntary.

How came you to shut it up on Saturday night?

My friends told me I should not get paid if I kept drawing after and during the election too. There was a board up against the Bull and the Hammer and Trowel during the election. Withdrew.

STEPHEN ARNOLD sworn.

I keep the White Hart at Pockthorpe.

Was your house open at the time of the election?

It was opened some time before the election.

How long?

Five or six weeks before; once in the week, Wednesday I believe, supper.

By whose orders?

By some of the Committee I believe, but I cannot tell.

Where did you receive the orders?

At the King's Head, I cannot say from whom; several gentlemen were there; I had my order in writing, I have it not now.

What have you done with it?

I never kept one of them by me.

Had

Had you one every week?

Every time the house was open I had one.

Have you delivered them up to any body since the election?—No.

Have you delivered them up since the writ?—No.

Who were they signed by?

I cannot tell, I can't read; there was a bit of paper for so much a man.

How much?

One shilling at first for eating and drinking, afterwards 1s. 6d.

When was it made 1s. 6d.?

Three or four meetings at 1s. 6d.

How many persons came?

From fifteen to twenty, some neighbours, some strangers, Freemen of Norwich.

Was you paid?—Only till the writ came.

How often?

Four or five times, paid the next day; I took the bill to the Committee-room at the King's Head, and was paid by Mr. Hardingham.

How much did your bills come to before the writ came?

From 20 to 30s. each.

Did any persons visit the Freemen at these suppers?

Yes, sometimes one sometimes another. Mr. Day would sometimes walk round; I saw Mr. Hobart once or twice, who came with him I cannot tell. I know Mr. Roach, I have seen him with Mr. Hobart, I have seen Mr. Roach come alone, and they came to ask me how I did; that is all I know about the matter.

For what purpose did they come?

They asked me how I did; I have been often in company with Mr. Roach; Mr. Hobart never came but once, he went into the room where the Freemen were. I know William Fulcher, I lent him two guineas.

When?

Before the election rather; I took a note for it.

Where is it?—I gave it to Mr. Roach.

By whose order did you advance it to Fulcher?

My own.

Had you before you advanced it consulted any person as to the propriety of it?—No.

Had you conversed with any person about doing it?—No.

When did you deliver the note to Mr. Roach?

Before the election.

Has any one paid you that two guineas?

No;



No; I have not charged it to any body; I have no promise that it shall be paid.

Why did you deliver the note to Mr. Roach?

I am not used to keeping notes, and I thought it would be as well in his hands as my own.

Did you deliver other notes at the same time?—Yes.

Whose?

One of John Skippers, one of John Athill, and one of Tom Skeys.

For how much?

Tom Skeys a guinea, he lives at Pockthorpe; — Skippers 11. 11s. 6d. I do not know where he lives; — Athill's is 11. 1s. he lives in Pockthorpe; I know Skipper very well; Skey is a Freeholder; the others are Freemen.

Who did Athill vote for?

Beevor, all voted for Beevor; I mean John Athill a weaver, he lived in Pockthorpe; Skipper does not live there, Fulcher does.

Have you had the money back?—No.

Did you ever deliver any other notes to Mr. Roach?

Never.

Where did you deliver them at?—At Mr. Roach's house.

Have you ever demanded the money since?—No.

Do you mean to demand it?

I should like to get it, but I shall never demand it I will be bound for it.

Did you ever before or since lend any money or note to either of these four persons?—Never.

Did you charge these sums in your bill to the Committee?

No.

Do you mean that you have not been paid or promised?

No.

Have you been allowed them on account from any body?

No.

Have you received beer on the credit of them from any body?

No, I am not paid or secured, I gave them to Mr. Roach to take care of for me, as I am not able myself.

Did you deliver any other paper to Mr. Roach?—No.

Have you had any conversation with Mr. Roach respecting them since the election?—No.

Since they voted for Sir Thomas Beevor?—No.

Did you ever hear from these four before the election for whom they intended to vote?

Never, not for positive; they told me they should vote for Mr. Hobart.

After

After they had voted for Sir Thomas Beevor, did Mr. Roach say any thing to you, or you to him on the subject?

No.

Who were present when the notes were given to Mr. Roach?—Nobody.

Do you know of any money lent by any other persons to Freemen of Norwich for which votes were taken?—No.

Do you know of any other notes lodged with Mr. Roach? No.

When did the writ come?

Saturday or Sunday before the election.

Were there any entertainments in the election week at your house?

Yes, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday eating and drinking; drinking on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday supper; Friday eating all day.

What was the expence of this week?—11l. odd.

Who eat and drank?

Freemen, entertainments for the Freemen of Norwich; my neighbours came; I have not been paid; I made out my bill after the election; I delivered it at the King's Head in a room, I cannot say who was there. Thomas Sales is my brewer. I never was promised payment of the bill, I was never allowed it in my account.

When you delivered this to the Committee did you apply for payment?—No, I only delivered in the paper.

On whose credit and account did you give these entertainments?—My own.

How came you to charge these entertainments to Mr. Hobart's Committee?

I took them in the bills expecting to be paid one day or another, I cannot tell when; I had no orders.

Was you forbid to give these entertainments?

No, nor yet ordered to give it.

By whom do you expect to be paid?—I cannot tell.

Do you frequently give treats for a week without expecting payment?

No; I have often given suppers, they pay for their drink then.

Did you receive your orders from the Committee weekly?

Yes.

For each evening's entertainment before you did entertain any one?—Yes.

Did you carry in your bill once a week?

The next morning I was paid.

In what way was the order given?

For

For one shilling a man, expressed so in the paper, every man one shilling a man.

Had you any orders from Mr. Hobart?—Never.

Am I to understand then that the only orders you ever received was from the Committee?—Yes.

Did you apply for orders to open your house in the election week?—No.

By whose orders was it opened then?

My own. I am not free.—Withdraw.

JOHN FAREMAN, sworn.

I keep the Jolly Toper, I am a Freeman, I voted for Mr. Hobart.

Was your house open?—Yes.

For the entertainment of Freeman?

Yes, the friends of Mr. Hobart.

For how many weeks?—About eight.

Was it open till the election was over?

Till the writ came down.

Then was it shut?

Yes, and I opened it by my own order, I made an application and he gave me no orders, I opened it on my own account.—I was not paid to the time of the writ, I have bills unpaid, I was paid some,; sometimes I have taken 3l. sometimes less, once a week.

By whose order did you open the house?

I do not know any body but Mr. Goodwin who wrote at the Committee, I severally took my orders from him, I had a written order, I took it off the place, Goodwin wrote it, nobody signed it.

Who paid you?—Hardingham.

Did Mr. Hardingham come in at those entertainments?

Yes, twice I believe, along with some gentlemen.

Did any of the Freeman live at your house?—No.

Were there no Freeman there for any time together?

Not that I know of, I never had any.

How many entertainments were given in the election week?—Friday and Saturday, breakfasts and dinners.

How many Freeman were entertained on those days?

Can't tell, I was obliged to be up and down, there might be forty or fifty each day.

What is the amount of your unpaid bill?

Nineteen pounds five shillings.

Did you ever make it out?

Yes,



Yes, and delivered it up to the Committee, to Goodwin as I received my orders.

How came you to take your bill to the Committee?

I expected to be paid by somebody, some day or another.

How came you to take it to the Committee?

Because I had been paid by Mr. Hardingham before.

Then do you expect to be paid by the same persons now?

I did expect so, but I found my mistake when I carried it, because they had given me no orders.

What passed?

I delivered it to Mr. Goodwin, and he opened it, and said, he knew nothing at all about it, he could not pay me, because he gave me no orders, and I had opened the house myself.

When did this pass?

After the election, about a week after. I have had no conversation with Mr. Hobart since about my bill. I know Isaac Vicars, he has been at my house.

How long a time together?

No otherwise than as to drink a pint of beer and away again; he is a Freeman. I know Mr. J. Roach.

Did he canvas with Mr. Hobart?

I never saw him with Mr. Hobart, I have seen him about, I rather think he canvassed for Mr. Hobart, he was at my house sometimes, he came to see the Freeman as a friend of Mr. Hobart's.

Did he not come as a friend of Mr. Hobart's to see the Freeman entertained and properly treated?—I believe he did.

What was the form of your order?

John Fareman, my sign and parish. I wrote my bill under that: I had a fresh order every time my house was opened. I made an application after the writ came down to Mr. Goodwin, to have my house opened, he said, he could not, but if I opened it I must answer for it myself, he could do nothing in it. My parish is St. Martin at the Oak.

What houses were opened there for Sir Thomas Beavor?

The Dolphin, that is all.

Was that open after the writ came down?

Yes, but by whom I cannot tell, the word "Beavor" was over the doors of some houses, I cannot say it was at the Dolphin. The Unicorn in St. Mary's was open for Sir Thomas Beavor. I heard the man say he had a demand for 10l. I saw the name over the door. I never had any orders from Mr. Hobart about opening my house, I never took any bills to him or asked for payment.

Did

Did you ever see Mr. Roach asking for votes with Mr. Hobart?

I never saw Mr. Roach asking for votes in the presence of Mr. Hobart I believe.—Withdrew.

JOHN CUTTING, sworn.

I keep the White Swan at Norwich, in St. Paul's, I am a Freeman.

Was your house open at the election?—Yes.

How long?—Cannot tell.

Was it to the time of the election?

Yes, all the time, From Wednesday till Friday night in the election week, I cannot say how many weeks before.

Do you know Mr. Day the brewer?—Yes.

Was he a friend of Mr. Hobart's?—I cannot tell.

Did you ever see him canvas with, or for Mr. Hobart? Never.

Did he open your house?

Yes, he desired me to open it to entertain the friends of Mr. Hobart, who were Freeman.

Have you been paid?

I settled with Mr. Day, I carried the note to him, I never had any money, I deal with him.

How came you to say you did not know whether Mr. Day was a friend of Mr. Hobart's?

Because I never heard him say he was.—My bill was for 9l. 13s. for the three days before the election.

Who paid you?

Hardingham.—I had no money to get my beer of Mr. Day, and I took my bill, and he allowed me beer for it; Mr. Hardingham paid me before.

How much?

Cannot tell: my house was open on the Saturday, and he generally paid me every Monday, when I took my bill. All Freeman who came eat and drank what they pleased, I do not know I ever saw Mr. Hobart at my house, if I did it was only once, one evening: Mr. Day never came once.

Did you at any time lend any money?—Never.

How came you to take your bill to Mr. Day?

I took my bill because it was due, and I had orders to let the people have victuals and drink in reason till the election was over: I had the order from two of the runners, one was named Druiball, the other was Cock.

Did they come from Mr. Day?

They did not tell me they did: Mr. Day gave me the first orders, when it was first opened.

When did the runners come ?

On Wednesday in the election week, in the forenoon.  
Did they come from the Committee, or Mr. Day ?

I do not know who they came from ; they desired me to find victuals and drink for the Freemen till the election was over ; they told me the gentlemen gave them the orders, but who I knew not ; I did not ask ; I gave the meat and drink ; Day settled the bill for this.

Had you any orders from Mr. Hobart to open your house ?——No.

How long have you dealt with Day ?——Ten years.

Was you paid your bill every week ?

My house was opened Saturday, and paid Monday.

Where did you receive the money ?

At the King's Head in the Market-place.

Did you apply for any orders to open your house after the writ came down ?——No ; never once.

Do you know of any public-house in your parish, or any other, being open in the interest of Sir Thomas Beevor ?

No.——Withdrew.

JOHN SIMONS, sworn.

I keep the Cock, in St. Stephens ; it was opened four times, I think, once a week ; supper sometimes ; am a Freeholder.

Was it open till the election was over ?

Yes ; Friday and Saturday, the election days ; it was opened on Thursday night for Mr. Hobart's country Voters, and on Friday and Saturday for such friends as came, Norwich as well as country. I had an order from the Committee to open it at the first.

Under that order did you open it first and last ?

I did, for I had no other order ; on Friday and Saturday those that chose to come were entertained.

Is your bill paid ?——No.

Is it delivered in ?——Yes.

To whom ?——The Committee.

Do you expect soon to be paid ?

I do not know ; I should be glad to be paid. I have seen Mr. Day the brewer ; I have lived where I do now 15 years ; I should know Mr. Day if I was to see him ; I have not my liquor of him ?

Who came to your house to see the Freemen were taken care of ?

Major Hobart ; Mr. Hobart never did ; Major Hobart came on the Thursday night ; I know Mr. Roach.



Did he come to see that the people were properly entertained?

I think he came one night with other gentlemen; I did not see Mr. Wymer.

Did you lend any money about this time?

No; mine was a house for country Voters, you see some came a good way; I make up beds; I had nobody there but what paid me.

Was your house open before the writ came?

Yes; once or twice; once a week, Wednesday night; I had a written order every time I opened my house till I had an order to leave off.

Had you any order to open your house after the writ came?—No.

Did you go and desire to have an order?

No; I heard the others had not, and so I did not go; I was busy; mine is a market house; after the writ came my house was not opened under any order. There was the Recruiting Serjeant by me opened for Sir Thomas Beevor; the George, in St. Stephens; Beevor's name is up now on some houses; it was up at the Lamb.

Were you paid your bills up to the time of the writ?

Yes; the next day.

Have you been paid any of your bills that became due after the writ?—No.

The Angel was open as far as I know, the same as others, for Sir Thomas Beevor, it was their great house: I never had any orders from Mr. Hobart to open; I never saw him but when he canvassed me; Major Hobart did not open me; I shut up my house on Saturday; after we heard the election was over we naturally shut up; had no orders to shut up; had no particular order about opening.—Withdrew. Adjourned.

Veneris, 23<sup>o</sup> Die, Feb. 1787.

EDWARD CALLOW, sworn.

I keep a public-house, the Sailor's Return, in Yarmouth.

Was your house open?

Yes; so far as that some of the Freemen came and dined at my house; some few they came backwards and forward, and had drink and victuals. Yarmouth is 22 miles from Norwich; there were some at my house, and some at others.

When was that?

Pre-

Presently after they canvassed ; in the week of the election there were some few up and down, and so there were for Mr. Beevor ; some the week before too.

Who opened your house ?

Nobody ; a gentleman came down from Norwich, and told me, if I chose to let the Freemen have a pot or two of beer, I might.

Did he come from the Committee ?

Not that I know of ; I know nothing of the Committee ?

Who was it ?—Mr. Leeds.

Who is he ? He lives at Norwich, a brushmaker there.

Did he come to your house while the Freemen were there ?

Yes ; he might be there once or twice ; he deals much in Yarmouth, and, I believe, he came about his business.

Did he canvas ?

I do not know ; I never went with him any where.

What part did he take in the late election ?

I do not know whether he voted or not.

What brought him to your house when the Freemen were there ?—Do not know.

What did he do there ?

He drank along with me and them. I am a Freeman, I have been these thirty years.

How did you vote ?

For Hobart, and so I did the election before.

Who paid your bill for entertaining these Freemen ?

I was paid one bill, but who paid it I do not know, I was paid at Norwich, but who paid me I do not know.

Did you know the gentleman ?—No.

Where was you paid ?

At the King's Head in the market ; I received the money myself.

Was you paid in the Committee-room ?

I do not know whether it was or no ; there were many gentlemen there, and many such as myself ; I was never in the room before or since. Mr. Leeds did not pay me, he was not there as I know of.

How came you to go there to be paid ?

I heard the people say, the bills were paying off that day, when I was at Norwich.

What bills ?

I saw none paid but mine. Mr. Leeds told me to let the people have beer.

How came you to take your bill to the King's Head to be paid ?

I went

I went to Norwich about some business of my own, and so I took the bill with me, I thought I might as well, whether I got paid or no, and so I took it and got paid; I heard so at Yarmouth.

What bills did you understand were paying there that made you take yours?

I understood that some of the publican's bills were paying, and that was my reason for it.

Bills for what?

I cannot tell; I suppose the same as mine.

When was you paid?

About three weeks or a month after the canvas began, eight or nine weeks before the election.

What was the amount?—About 9l.

Was it so long before the election?

I am sure it was two months before the election.

What is due to you now?—I cannot tell, not 40l.

Have you made no account?

Yes, it is at home; I have never troubled myself about it, if I am never paid Mr. Hobart or any of his friends are welcome; I had no order from any body, and I am sure I can make no demand.

Who did you give your account to?

I did not know who to give it to, perhaps I may never know; I do not know who to give it to.

Do you mean to say, that you do not know who you shall give your bill to, or apply for payment?

I do not know.

Do you ever expect to be paid?

I should like to be paid.

Question repeated?

I do certainly expect to be paid, I should like it.

Question repeated?

Yes, I should like and expect it.

By whom do you expect to be paid?

I do not know, nor who to apply to.

Have you had any conversation about your bill or the money due to you with any person whomsoever?

Yes; I have spoke to some of my acquaintance in Yarmouth, but I have not been in Norwich since the election.

Have you had any such conversation with Mr. Hobart or any of the Committee for managing his election?—No.

Did you lend any money to any of the Freeman of Norwich that live at Yarmouth?—Never.

Was Mr. Hobart himself at Yarmouth while these people were entertaining at your house?

Mr.



Mr. Hobart was once at my house.

When was that?

One evening I believe four or five Freemen were there.

How long before the election was that?

Three weeks or a month or a fortnight, I cannot tell.

Do you remember at what time Mr. Leeds first applied to you?

I believe on a Wednesday morning, as soon as the canvas began.

Was it in July?—Cannot tell.

Do you remember whether before or after last Norwich affizes?—I fancy after.

Had you any application from any other person to open your house?—Yes, for Mr. Beevor.

Was that before or after Leeds?—After.

Who applied?—Mr. Bell an attorney at Yarmouth.

Do you know if Bell is a Freeman of Norwich?

He is a Freeholder.

Was any thing offered to you to open your house in the interest of Sir Thomas Beevor?—Nothing said about it.

Did any body else besides Mr. Bell apply to you to open your house for Sir Thomas Beevor?

Nobody of any consequence, some poor people told me I might open my house for Sir Thomas Beevor.

Do you know of any public houses in Yarmouth opened for Sir Thomas Beevor?

Yes, one of the name of Proctor, I do not know the sign; I know of no other; I was asked to go to Proctor's to partake of an elegant supper there; I did not go.

About what time was the canvas in Yarmouth?

Believe it might be in August.

Was it before the middle?—Cannot speak.

How many days might it last?—Not above a day or two.

Was it during that time you saw Mr. Hobart at your house?

I believe the canvas was before, he might come a week after the canvas.

Who invited you to go to Proctor's?

I believe one of their names was Garrett, and the other Cordron, residents in Yarmouth, they asked me to go with them, I believe it was done out of joke more than any thing else, they knew I would not go; this was a month before the election; Garrett is a Freeholder and Cordron a Free-man.

On what day did you go to vote?—Thursday.

Was Proctor's house open in the election week?

Cannot

Cannot tell.

Why did you give the Freemen to eat and drink, when you said you was told you might give them beer if you liked it?

It was a voluntary act and deed of my own, they were poor people.

How came you then to keep an account of what you gave away of your own accord?

That was after my first bill was paid I took an account.

In whose name is the account made out in your book?

No name at all in my book.

Is it usual for you to enter articles in your book without any name?

I put down the names of the poor men according to what liquor they had.

Did you mean to call on those men for your money?

I did, and some of them did pay me.

That which was not paid you, who did you mean to call on for that?

I suppose I should lose it, for this was before I delivered my first bill.

Do you believe you shall lose it?—Yes.

Is that bill of 9l. for liquor only?—No.

What was it for?

One day I gave them a couple of ox cheeks, and another shins of beef, and that is all the eating there was.

Have you any other substance than what you have by your inn?—Yes, I have some houses.

If you should not be paid this bill still due, you can stand the loss?

Yes; the bill is between 30 and 40l.; there were fifteen or sixteen Freemen there sometimes.

Does that bill comprehend victuals as well as drink?

Every thing.

In the election week did you charge for any thing?

Every thing.—Withdrew.

RICHARD BALLARD sworn.

I am a publican; I keep the Rising Sun and Tobacco Roll in Fashion-street, Spitalfields.

Was your house open for the entertainment of Freemen in Mr. Hobart's interest?—Yes.

By whom?—Leftley and John Seaman.

What is Seaman?—A master weaver.

What is Leftley?—A grocer, he lives in the Strand.

How long was your house open?

Eight weeks and better, down to a little while after the

writ came out ; it was open seven or eight days after the writ came out.

Who were entertained ?

A good many, sometimes 40 people were there, Freemen of Norwich ; more or less were there.

In whose interest ?—Mr. Hobart's.

How often were the entertainments given ?—Every day

Was you ordered to give them any particular quantity.

They eat and drank as long as they liked ; Mr. Seaman bought the victuals, and we cooked it ; he acted like an agent under Leftley ; Mr. Leftley the principal.

Did they come from time to time to see how the people were entertained ?—Yes.

Did that treating continue all the time ?

Yes ; down to the last.

Were Leftley and Seaman often at your house ?

Yes ; Seaman lives about two doors from me, he was backwards and forwards all the day long.

Did Mr. Leftley canvas the Voters there ?

I never saw him there canvassing, he was there frequently.

Did Seaman canvas ?

I did not see him ; I have seen Mr. Hobart, he never came to my house.

Did you hear any conversation with Leftley and any of the Freemen, about money ?—No.

Did you between Seaman and any of the Voters ?

Yes ; they were talking together about money ; Seaman came to order me to give such a person so much money, and set it down to his account.

How many people did Seaman at any time desire you to give money to ?

Several of them, at several times ; and all put to his account.

Were those persons Freemen that had the money ?—Yes.

How many were there ?—I cannot recollect.

Did you put that money into the bill ?—No.

Were you paid that separately ?

Set down to Mr. Seaman's account, and he paid me by a bill of 9 or 10l. at a time.

How often was this ?

Sometimes once in a week, the men had a trifle of money.

Was it usual besides the meat and drink, to give the men money ?

The men used to ask Seamen for money, and he used to come to me, and say, give that man so much money, and I did, and set it to his account.

How long before the election was this ?

About



About six weeks after I had my house opened they had money.

Was this every week?

Yes; the house was open six weeks before any of them had any money, then after they had money.

Had most of them money?—A good many had.

Do you know what they applied to Mr. Seaman for money for?

Some of them said, they wanted money for clothing; some of them were very naked.

Mr. Seamen used to tell me to give this person so much money; sometimes he brought the man to me at the bar, and sometimes I might be in the room, and he told me to give this man the money, and I set it down to his account; Seaman has paid me all; he had money for himself, and I set it all down; I trusted him 200 or 300l. for money only; I used to lend him money to carry on his business; Seaman used to give me money on account. I cannot say how much the whole was.

Are you paid all your bills?—No.

How much is still due?—Between 22 and 23l.

What is that for?—Eating and drinking.

Then all the money you paid the Voters, you are repaid?—Yes.

Was you paid that by Seaman?

Yes; all the men had, Seaman paid himself.

Was Seaman the person that Leftley employed to assist him?

Yes; all the money I lent Seaman he paid me; the bills for eating, &c. Leftley paid.

How comes the 33l. to be unpaid.

I took the bill in, and Leftley has promised me as soon as he got money from Mr. Hobart I should be paid.

Then there was no objection to your bill?

No; only the want of money.

Did your wife in your presence use to give money to any of the Freeman?

I generally paid the men myself.

Did any people go from your house to Swaffham?—Yes.

How long before the election was it that they went from London?

About a week before the election, they went from my house.

How many were there?—Nine or ten.

Name some of them?—Samuel Johnson, one Wood.

Do you know Tinley?

Question objected to as being a leading one—Withdraw.

Court cleared.

Resolved. That Mr. Pigott do proceed.

Counsel called in, and acquainted therewith.

Witness again.

Do you know Tinley?—Yes.

Did he go to Swaffham in that party?—I cannot say.

Do you know William Trevelyan?—No; one Eggs went.

Who else?—Howard; I cannot recollect any more.

Did you take any notes of hand from those persons to whom you gave the money?

No; no paper at all from the people who had the money?

Have you known Seaman several Years?

Two or three years he has been in my neighbourhood; he uses my house; the Freemen who came were some of them persons who lived in my neighbourhood.

Were any of them journeymen weavers?

Yes; a good many of them.

Did some of them work for Seaman?

I do not think any Freemen did.

Were those men who were ill-clothed free?

Yes; some were carpenters, some weavers.

Did any of them work for Seaman?

I believe not. I did not go to Swaffham; I heard talk that the men were gone to Swaffham; I heard so in my house; I do not know of my own knowledge, only by talk; I did not hear it from Mr. Hobart.

Did you ever lend money to Seaman on any other occasion?

Yes; a good deal before the election and since, as a neighbour and acquaintance, on his own credit, from time to time.

For what purpose?—To pay his journeymen.

Do you know that before the writs came out there was a notice in the Gazette from the Speaker of the House of Commons, that a writ would issue.

Yes; I heard say, there would a writ be issued.

Was your house open down to the time when that notice came out, or down to the time when the writs came out?

Down to the time the writs came out, and a little time after?

Do you know when the writs came out?

Not the day, they told me the writs were out.

Do you know if the house was open part of the election week?—I believe it was open a day or two that week.

Did Voters go to Norwich from your house?—No.

Did they meet at your house before they set off?

Yes;

Yes ; and then went to the Red Hart in Shoe-Lane, and the inns where the stages went from ; they had a glass and a crust of bread before they went to the coaches, chiefly in the evening.

Who told you those men were going to Swaff ham ?

There were coaches came to my door, and they went to Swaff ham. None of the bills for money advanced Leftley did not pay ; Leftley had nothing to do with those bills.

Which days in the election week was your house open ?

Monday, and, I believe, a part of Tuesday.

What was the amount of any sum you gave to any one Voter ?

Some half a guinea, and some a guinea at a time, when they wanted money.

How much in the whole did you give to any one Voter ?

Cannot say.

Had any Voter in the whole more than a guinea ?

I believe not.

State the name of any persons to whom you gave money by order of Seaman ?

One Brand, Timothy Brand, and one Widdows ; I cannot recollect any more.

Who drew the bills, and upon whom were they drawn which Seaman paid you with ?

They were drawn by Seaman on Kelly, he is a ribbon-weaver in Phoenix-street.

Were any one present when Seaman gave you orders to advance money to the different Voters ?

Sometimes the men used to be at the bar.

Did he give you the orders positively ?

He used to speak out, give this man so much money.

What reason had you for saying Seaman was an Under Agent of Leftley's ?

He used to come and give me orders for victuals and drink, and used to buy the victuals himself.

Did you know the names and persons of all, or most of those, to whom you gave the money in the way you have mentioned ?

I know some of them, I cannot now recollect any but those two.

Are not Brandon and Widdows journeymen-weavers ?

Yes.

Are they not workmen to Seaman ?

Brandon does not work for Seaman.

Who does he ? — A gentleman in the city.

Who does Widdows work for ?

Can-



Cannot tell; he has for Seaman since the election, but not before; Brandon did at the election work for Seaman.

How could you make your charge to Seaman of the money you advanced to the Voters, if you cannot remember their names?

I used to put down the money I gave them, and shew him the person, and say, I had given it; and he said, very well.

Then when you delivered your charge to Seaman, do you mean to say the men were in fight?

I cannot say they were; perhaps the men might be up stairs, and Seaman in the bar, and I shewed him so much money sat down, and when he went up stairs shewed him the person.

Then did you shew to Seaman every person to whom you gave money?—I believe he saw most of them.

Did he make no further enquiries?

No, he paid me all the money.

Had you been used to give money to the journeymen-weavers by Seaman's direction before the election?

I never paid any of his journeymen any money.

Were Leftley and Seaman ever together at your house? Yes.

Did Leftley tell you of Seaman being his agent?

I cannot say he did; they sometimes came together.

Did you ever know any more of those persons names to whom you gave the money, or have you forgot them?

I have forgot them.

Did Leftley order you to open your house?—Yes.

Were Leftley and Seaman together then?—Yes.

Did Leftley ever tell you to follow Seaman's direction in any thing?—No; I cannot say he did.

Did Seaman tell you he had directions from Leftley?

He told me he had taken directions of Leftley to provide; I never heard Leftley give him such directions.

Was Leftley ever present when Seaman ordered you to give any persons money?—I do not think he was.

Did you hear Johnson, Wood, Eggs, or Howard say they were going to Swaffham?

They told the coachman to go to Swaffham.

Did you give these sums every week?

After the first six or seven weeks I gave them money for about a fortnight.

Then what was the amount of the money you so paid away?

I cannot say; I received bills of 9 or 10l. at a time.

How many?—Seaman had money for himself.

How

How many did you give money to?

Several; they gave me no reason, only they took the money; some I saw had bought cloaths with the money.

Withdrew.

SIMON HOWARD, sworn.

I am a carpenter and joiner at Norwich; I am a Freeman, and voted for Hobart.

Did you do no more than vote, or was you any other ways employed?

I was employed the day of the election as a check at an inn.

Before that day, and a few days before the election, was you at all employed?

Not at all; no runner nor stavesman.

What was paid for checking?

I received nothing, nor expect nothing.

How many houses were opened for Hobart?

I cannot tell; I never frequented any houses during the election, only at my own expence.

What inn was you check at?

The Black Boys, St. George's, Colgate.

Who appointed you?

When I made application I did not know who appointed me, since I know it was Bygrave.—I applied to be appointed as a clerk at the public-house, that the landlord should not impose on Mr. Hobart, or the Committee.

How did it happen that you came to chuse this occupation as you were not to be paid?

I did it from good will to Mr. Hobart.

What number of people were entertained at the house the day of the election?

I cannot tell, there were people going backwards and forwards, not 100, backwards and forwards all day; they were country Voters, free or not free I cannot tell, there were no questions asked, I supposed them to be country Voters.

Do you mean to tell the Committee that those persons entertained at the house where you checked, were all country Voters?

I believe there were some citizens as well as country Voters, the house generally was looked on as for country Voters..

As you were a check, was you ordered to suffer no resident Freeman to be entertained?

I received

I received no such orders.

What were your orders?

I received the orders the night before the election to go the next morning to see that the landlord did not set down more than he gave.—There was breakfast, and some dined, and some supped; breakfast was the chief: those who had their horses came and dined and supped and went out again.

How many had their horses?—I cannot tell.

How many could lodge?

I cannot tell, it is a large house; they drank in moderation: no orders to limit them.

What was the bill that day?

Eleven pounds one shilling, I suppose he is not paid.—I saw the bill and checked it: I left it with the landlord, I did not take it to any body to be paid, I signed it and saw it was just.

Do you know Mr. George Wymer the attorney?

Yes, by sight.

Do you know what part he took in the election?—No.

Do you know Mr. Roach?

Yes, he never came to me about the election.

Was you all the election day at the Black Boys?

From seven in the morning till seven or eight at night.

Did you see any country Voters come in?—Yes.

How did they come?

Chiefly on horseback, their horses were put up there.

Was the expences of their horses put to the sum of  
11l. 1s.?—All included.

Did any country Voters come in on the Thursday night and sleep?—They did.

Were their horses kept there?

They were, but I only went the next morning.

Did any of their horses remain there on Friday night?

Very few, most went that evening. I was there on the Saturday, some few remained.

Did any country Voters sleep there on Friday night, or were entertained?—Yes, those who staid supped.

Were others besides Freemen or Freeholders in the house in the course of Friday?

A great many, they came and went as they chose, we could not tell whether they were free or not.

Were there most country Voters?

I believe more citizens than country Voters.

Did you see any person drunk that day?

No.——Withdrew.

ROBERT



ROBERT BARWELL. sworn.

To Lodon treating.

I keep the Red Hart in Shoe-lane.

Was your house opened during the late contest at Norwich?—Yes.

How long?—Near eight weeks.

Down to what time?—To the election.

To a day or two before the election, constantly open.

Who was entertained at your house?

A great many Freemen of Norwich and their Friends.

Who opened your house?—Leftley.

While these entertainments were going on, did Leftley used to be there?—Very often.

What did he come for?

He used to dine with them, came to give orders, and see they were going on to his liking.

Had they whatever they chose?—Yes, no stint.

Do you know Seaman?

Yes, he was often backwards and forwards at my house.

What brought him there?

He used to come among the other Freemen; he used to put himself as foreman like, he has often been there with Leftley.

Did Leftley and he used to be together?

They used to have conversation together often.

Did Mr. Leftley and Seaman used then to converse privately?

I do not know privately, we were in a large room.

Did Seaman give any directions?

I do not know he did in particular, I always understood it was under Leftley; I never heard him give orders to Seaman: Leftley used to come generally every day, sometimes he did not come, and we went on as usual.

Who paid your bill?—Leftley.

What was the amount of your bill?

Not 200l. I have received 150l. or 160l. there is some unpaid, I do not doubt it will be paid.

Was that 150l. all you received?—Yes.

What reason did Mr. Leftley give you for not paying the rest?—That it did not suit, that he had no money in hand.

Have you insisted on being paid?

I was rather pressing for it.

In what way?

I had often called on him, I arrested him for the balance: I am not yet paid.

Did you ever give the people any money?

One or two borrowed a guinea, perhaps three or four of them did, I believe not more; one was named Tinley; I cannot tell the others name; they borrowed of me.

Did you put it in your bill?—No.

Does that money form no part of your demand on Lestley?—No.

Who is to repay you that money?

Why Mr. Lestley said he would take care and stop it, and see I was paid.

For what purpose did they apply to you?

They said they were distressed and wanted a guinea to get some little necessaries before they went to Norwich.

Did they say what sort?

I believe one wanted it to leave it with his wife, another wanted to get cloaths out of pawn.

Did they apply to you for the money?

Me or my wife, who ever happened to be at the bar.

Were they particular friends of yours?

No, not more than the rest.

Had you lent them money before?—No.

Did you consult Lestley about lending this money?

I believe he did say, that if any of them were in distress, and I would lend them a guinea he would see it paid.

To your knowledge how many did your wife pay money to?—Cannot say.

Did she pay any?

Yes, she might pay some of these; I cannot speak to the number that had these trifles.

Did Lestley object to any of the articles of your bill?

There was one bill he did object to, and there was two guineas abated.

Did he object to any other?

No; after that time he had a check clerk or two there.

When was the objection made?

About three weeks or a month before election.

How often in the week were persons at your house by Lestley's order?

Every day; he first ordered me to open the beginning of July, and it continued till the election.

At what time was the application made to you for money?—A fortnight or three weeks before the election.

Was it known at that time that the Voters were to go to Norwich?—Believe it might.

Do you remember who it was that proposed to leave some money with his wife in his absence?

I can-

I cannot; that reason was given.

Did you advance to any person more than a guinea?

Believe not.

When Lestley said he would stop it, did he mention out of what the money was to be stopped?

I understood it was to be stopped out of the money they were to have for their loss of time in going to Norwich.

Did you ever pretend to Lestley that you was a Voter?

I never told him so, but some people told him so.

Did you not pretend to be a Voter at the time Mr. Lestley first applied to you to open your house?—I did at that time.

Did you pretend to be a Voter during the time the Freemen were occasionally entertained at your house?

Yes, it was at that time.

When was it you first disclosed to Mr. Lestley you was not a Voter?

A few days before they went down to Norwich.

Have you ever voted?—No.

Did you offer to vote in 1784?

No; I keep no chaises nor horses. Withdrew.

JOHN EDWARDS sworn.

I keep the One Tun in Goodge-street, Tottenham-Court-Road.

Was your house open during the contest?—Yes.

How long?

Opened the latter end of July, and till a little before the election within two or three days; always open to Freemen in Mr. Hobart's interest.

Who opened it?—Lestley.

Were the Freemen entertained?

I supposed them Freemen, sometimes more, sometimes less every day, no stint whatever. I never saw Mr. Hobart before I came here; Lestley came sometimes.

What brought him?

I never asked him; he came of course at times, he eat and drank, he conversed with the Freemen if any were there; he never asked any particular question of me. I know Mr. Seaman.

Did he ever come?

Yes, more than once or twice; I never saw him come with Lestley; I do not know he was employed by Lestley.

In what capacity did he come?

He might come as any other customer might come.

What



What did he do?

He might eat and drink as the rest, I do not know he did any thing particular.

Did he give any directions?—None at all.

What did your bill amount to?

Not to 50*l*. I believe 60*l*. at most I suppose in the whole; my bills were delivered in at different times; I am paid part.

How much is due?

I may have been paid 50*l*. or near to that.

Why have not you been paid the balance?

It was called for about a month after the election, I delivered it in, and have heard nothing since. I sent it to Leftley he ordered it, he gave no reason for not paying the whole.

Did those Freemen get any thing besides meat and drink? Not from me.

Did you or any body in your house lend them money?

I lent one man, I believe his name is James Coleby.

Were there any others?—No others who got money.

How much money did you give or lend James Coleby?

I lent to him 1*l*. 1*s*.

Was he an intimate friend of yours?—No.

Did you use to lend him money before?—No.

Did he apply to you to lend or give?

To lend him a guinea to buy him a coat to go to the Norwich election, to vote in Mr. Hobart's interest, as he was at that time a little out of repair.

Did you make that application known to Leftley?—No.

Does that guinea form part of your bill?—No.

Did you take any note from him?—No.

Had you any conversation with Leftley about it?—No.

Had you any direction from Leftley about giving them money?—No.

Have you been paid by Coleby?—No.

Have you asked him for it?

I have made several enquiries for him but cannot find him.

Have you enquired for him in order to get your money?

Yes, and if I find him and he do not pay me, I will summons him.

Do you know of any money lent by any other persons to any of the Norwich Freemen during the late contest?

No.

Do you know of any money given?—No.

Are you an inn-keeper?

No;

No; keep no horses or chaises:

How much is still owing?—Not so much as 50l.

Do you know of the place of the residence of Coleby?—No.

Did you ever before lend a man money without knowing where he lived?—Yes.

And that you did not know where to find afterwards?

Yes, I have several customers who use my house regularly, and those that I know are honest, I would lend them any thing in reason they might ask, as to a few shillings or a pound.

Did you know this Coleby except on the occasion of this election?

He came to my house about a fortnight or three weeks before the election with another person with him, and from that I knew a little of him; I was informed he was a watch-maker, and an honest creditable man; I knew no more of him. Withdrew.

#### WILLIAM HOWARD sworn.

Were you employed in the election?

I look on it I was; I am a barber; I am now employed by the East-India Company as a porter.

Who employed you in the late election?

Why, in fact, nobody employed me, but I was used exceeding well at the general election, therefore I thought it my duty to serve the gentleman again: I am a Freeman.

Who did you go to?

I waited on Mr. Hobart in June last, and asked him if he meant to stand, he told me he should; he did not solicit me for my vote, I thought it my duty to promise him.—I applied to Seaman to assist me in the business, in regard to the canvas, in favour of Mr. Hobart; we had been together before on the business; he consented to assist me, and immediately went with me to Benjamin Failes a Freeman, to canvas.

Did Seaman from that time canvas?

He did, for Mr Hobart constantly, I was sometimes with him on the canvas.

Did you ever see Leftley and Seaman together?

Yes, many times, I have been with them on this business.

How did they employ themselves when they were together?

They canvassed, I was with them sometimes; by myself sometimes; sometimes with Camp, and sometimes with Parkinson.

Did

Did Seaman do his best?—Yes; I believe he did.

Did Leftley and he act together as two persons jointly in the interest of Mr. Hobart?

Leftley; whole and sole agent.

Did you receive any directions from Leftley?

No; we did not agree.

Did Leftley give any directions to Seaman in your presence?—Yes; many times.

What was their nature?

I dont remember; Leftley was Seaman's employer telling him to go to different places; at different times, during the course of two months, he gave him directions how he was to employ himself.

Was there any houses open for the entertainment of the London Voters, during the canvas?—Yes.

How many?

Three continually, and one for one day only.

Then did they cease to be open?—Open near two months.

I went to Swaffham.

Did you command that party?

I looked on myself to be the manager of that party.

When did you go to Swaffham?

The Thursday week before the election, that we got to Swaffham; set off Wednesday evening from London.

How many?

Twelve Freemen; fourteen in all went, but only twelve Freemen, one Johnson went to be made free, and Mr. Wilkinson went to conduct us.

Is Swaffham in the road to Norwich?

No; out of the way, and we were there ordered to be kept that we might not be molested.

What do you mean by molested?

Interrupted; what I understood was, that Sir Thomas Beever had parties out, who meant to stop us; we expected to be molested, and that was the reason we stopped there; we stopped there by orders.

What made you go from London to Swaffham?

There was a party desired to go, and I was one of them.

Then, was the original destination from London to Swaffham?—Yes; till further orders.

Then as the reported interruption on the road to Swaffham, could not be the reason of going from London, what was the reason why the Voters were sent from London to Swaffham?—I cannot tell that.

How long did they remain at Swaffham?

Eight days; the whole party.

What



What did you do there eight days.

We diverted ourselves as well as we could, we eat and drank, we got pretty good cheer there.

How many bottles of wine might you have a day.

About 6 dozen the last day; the day before the election.

We lived very poor at first; victuals good, but liquor bad; till the men declared they would not stay, but go to Norwich to the other party, then it was better three days before the election; we had no wine before the last day. The next morning we went to Norwich to vote very regular.

Who kept the house at Swaffham?—Harrison.

Was there any talk of going over to Sir Thomas Beevor before the last day?

Yes; I took a great deal of pains to keep them in temper, they would have gone to Norwich, and gone to Beevor's party, I believe, according to their talk, for they were very much dissatisfied.

Was you paid as a runner?—No; I wish I was.

Have you a demand?

No doubt; I expect it, I lost a deal of money and time.

Have you applied to be paid?

Yes.

To whom?

To Mr. Leftley, and to Mr. Hobart himself; and he said he left it to his Committee entirely, to whom I sent the bill. I canvassed a good deal in London.

Did Mr. Hobart come among the people in London?

Only at one.

Did you find any of the Voters in distress for Money?

Yes; and freely gave them what I did, out of my own pocket, and never expect to be paid it, by Mr. Hobart or any of his friends; a great number did apply to me for money.

On what pretence?

They asked me to lend them money, and I did as long as it lasted, and never had but one 7s. returned yet from Benjamin Trailer.—Withdrew.—Adjourned.

Sabbeti 24<sup>o</sup> Die Feb. 1787.

WILLIAM HOWARD, sworn.

For whom did those twelve Freemen who went to Shaffham vote?—Hobart

Did you communicate to Mr. Leftley at any time, that you had been applied to by Voters for money?—No.

To

To how many did you lend money?

I only lent to one before the election, and one after.

What I gave I never expect to receive again by Mr. Hobart.

Did not you say yesterday that you lent money to many of the Voters?

If I did it was a mistake, I only lent to two, the other I gave out of my own pocket. I have delivered in an account.

What does it consist of?

My loss of time, and the expence I was at.

Have you been promised payment?

No; but I was desired by Mr. Hobart to lend it down to his Committee. (Drafts shewn him.)

Is Lestley's hand on the back of them?

Cannot say; I have seen him write.

Do you believe it is his hand writing?

I cannot speak to any but the one dated 1st Sept. 1786, for 50l.

Did any body apply to you for your vote on the part of Sir Thomas Beevor?—No.

Did you offer Mr. Hobart your vote, or was you applied to by any friend on his behalf?—I freely offered it.

In what carriage did you go to Swaffham?

In the Fakenham stage.

Did you all go in or about it?—Yes, all, 14.

Did you, while at Swaffham, ever represent Mr. Hobart?—No I did.

In what way?

By being carried about the town in a chair.

Was you carried in the chair by your own friends or strangers?

Friends; I was carried about, not to the market-place, they shouted; the last time was the Tuesday or Wednesday.

Was you carried on the jovial day?—No.

Did you take your share of the wine?

I drank my share to keep others in temper. We got to Norwich about 12 or 1 o'clock on the election day.

Were any persons of your party at Swaffham besides those who came from London?—Yes.

How many?

Three; I believe two strangers, the other was named Cross; I believe they eat and drank more days than one, but whether they paid for it I cannot tell.

Do you believe their expences were included in the bill?

There were six more joined us, sent by Lord Orford, as I understood, who were not free, and they partook.

Was

Was their charge included?—I believe so.

Was any person present when you applied to Mr. Hobart with your bill?—We two together only.

What charge did you make out in your bill?

Loss of time and expences.

Did you charge any thing else?—No.

Who was Wilkins?—A plaisterer.

What expences was you at?

At home and abroad I was upon it 11 weeks; I went privately a week by myself, without Mr. Hobart's instructions.

What sort of expences?

About 28l. for labour and living, being about, and loss of time. If I do not attend at the India-House, I receive nothing; my whole bill was 28l. odd.

Do you comprise in that any part of the money you lent or gave?—No.

While at Swaffham, if we took walks round the town, and they went into a public-house, I was the paymaster.

Withdrew.

#### BENJAMIN TRAILER, sworn.

I live in London, near Clare-market, am clerk to a lottery-office-keeper.

Were you employed in the late election?

By voluntary choice I was.

Who employed you?

One James Buttivant, an acquaintance of mine at Norwich; I first wrote to him, and he told me if I would do my best to serve Mr. Hobart he would pay me.

What capacity were you employed in?

I was a voluntary runner in London.

Under whose direction did you act?

Principally my own.

Did you receive any directions from Leftley?—Never.

Did you from Mr. Hobart?—Never.

Did Mr. Hobart know you were exerting yourself for him in London?—No.

Was Mr. Hobart ever present at the Red Hart where you was doing this business?—Yes; and Leftley was there.

Then must not Mr. Hobart have known of these exertions?—Do not know.

How many houses were opened in London?—Three.

How near to the election were these houses opened?

Began the 18th of July; I went to Norwich; am a Freeman.

When?—Three weeks before the election.

N

Did



Did you canvas at Norwich?—Yes; all about.

Did you, about this time, lend any money?

Never; I have treated the people at my own expence, and was satisfied for it by Buttivant. I never gave a penny to any man.——Withdrew.

TIMOTHY BRANDON, sworn.

I am a worsted-weaver, I live in Fashion-freet, Spittal-fields; am a Freeman; I voted Hobart. I was employed as a runner.

How many days?

Eight weeks and odd days, constantly employed to go about of errands, and to find Freemen out; I left weaving all this time, I did not work at all; I was paid 3s. a day, to that amount I had; for the first week and odd days 2s. 6d. a day; that was all I received till after I gave my vote.

What then?

Two guineas, and a guinea for my expences; three guineas, only one was stopped for coach hire and expences up.

How many others were paid?

I saw some paid; I cannot say how many rightly; perhaps twenty or thirty, on Sunday morning, all at the same rate, at the Crown in St. Simon's; paid by Leftley, all of us; I had the money for my running besides; those who were runners were paid for their running besides the three guineas. I canvassed for Hobart. I lent no money.

Did any Voters apply to you?

There might be a person or two ask me if I could make interest to have a trifle of money lent; if I would speak to Seaman, that they might have a trifle lent.

Did you speak to Seaman?—Yes.

What did he say?

He said he would see what he could do in it; that was all my answer.

Were any promises made to them?

Not that I know of. Leftley was Hobart's principal agent in London, Seaman under him.

Were the Voters to have any thing after they voted?

I cannot say.

Before they went from London, did any thing pass of what they were to have?—Not to my knowledge.

Did Leftley and Seaman canvas together?

They went out together day after day.

From whom did Seaman receive his directions?

From Leftley, I heard him give them to him. Seaman is a master weaver; I know Ballard.

Do

Do you remember applying to him for money?

Sometimes of a Saturday, when I have not been paid for the week, I have applied to him to lend me half a guinea till I had any money, he gave it to me; this might be about three times; my pay advanced; I had no money from Ballard, but in that way. Widdows was a runner, he was my partner. I never saw Ballard advance him money in the same way. I was out of London on Wednesday afternoon, and came back Tuesday evening; I did not act as a runner in Norwich; I had two guineas clear for my loss of time; I had never authority to lend money, never from any body; Mr. Hobart did not employ me, I do not think he employed Seaman. They were not runners that asked me to get them money lent; there were two, and I believe they were weavers; I worked for Seaman about four years ago, and I have since the election; I do not know these two had ever worked for Seaman. —

How much do you earn a day in full work?

Three and sixpence and four shillings.

What reason had you for saying Seaman acted under Leftley?

I was with them the same evening at the Tewksbury Church alehouse, in White-chapel, they had drink, and Leftley said he would take him as a partner to assist in the election, and hoped they should go hand in hand together. Seaman said, he hoped they should, and they shook hands on it; we were in a box by ourselves when we began; but afterwards Widdows was with us; whether he heard or not I cannot say; I never earn more than 3s. 6d. or 4s. a day; I earn 3s. a day the week round.

Did your pay of 3s. a day continue during the week you was absent from London?

Yes; up to the Saturday night.

Was the two guineas for loss of time, exclusive of 3s. a day?

Yes; I left London Wednesday the 13th, and was paid up to the Saturday night.

Was you told before you left London, that you should have those two guineas? — No.

Did you vote at the general election? — Yes.

What did you have for your loss of time?

Two guineas, over and above my expences; I was no runner then. — Withdrew.

SARAH BARWELL, sworn.

My husband keeps the Red Hart in Shoe-lane.

Was that house opened for Freeman in the interest of Mr. Hobart?—Yes.

When was it opened?—About the middle of July.

Down to what time did it continue open?

Till about the middle of September.

Were any Freeman of Norwich entertained at your house at that interval?—Many.

Did you pay any money to any of the Voters?

I believe I did to two or three.

Who?—Tinley was one; the others I forget.

By whose desire did you pay that money?

Leftley's I believe; I think it was; I cannot say for a certainly.

In what capacity did Mr. Leftley act?

As agent for Mr. Hobart.

Was he frequently at your house?—Yes.

Do you know Seaman?—Yes.

Was he ever there with Leftley?—Yes.

In what capacity did he act?—Cannot tell.

What was the amount of the bill from your husband for the entertainment of Voters?

I believe it might be between 150 and 160l.

Were the sums paid by you to the Voters included in the bill?

I believe once or twice there might; I believe a guinea each might; I cannot speak as to facts. I made out the account, Mr. Leftley has it.

Can you tell if you put this money down?

Leftley put two checks over us; Leftley's son was one, and he checked the bills every day; I cannot say positively whether I inserted the money so given to Voters.

Has that bill been paid, or any part of it?—A part.

For what purpose was the money paid to the Voters?

They were distressed for want of some little necessaries to travel with.

Did any Voter go to Swaffham from your house?

Cannot say; there were some carriages took up Voters from our door.

Had those Voters any money paid to them on their leaving your house?—I do not recollect there was.

Were any promises made in your hearing by Mr. Leftley of payment of money to the Voters after they had given their Votes?—I never heard any thing of that.

How much did you advance to Tinley?—A guinea.

Do you remember how long that was before they went to Norwich?—Two or three weeks.

When



When Tinley asked for some money, did he say he applied because he was distressed?—Yes.

Was your husband present?—No.

Did you acquaint your husband that you had advanced it?

Yes, part of the Freeman went away the 13th of September I think.—Withdrew.

JOHN HARMAN, sworn.

(To bribery.)

I am officer to the Court of Conscience at Norwich. I levy executions for debt.

Had you previous to, or at the last election any executions against Freeman?—Several.

Name them?

I had one against Peter Bushell, John Brown, Henry Slack, Tom Gage, William Todd, Benjamin David, John Miles, Robert Fulcher, John Turner, James Piggen, and William Carver.

What became of those executions?

I received the money.

Did you receive the money from the persons against whom the executions were out?

I received it of one Mr. Wymer of Norwich.

Do you know any thing of any notes given at the time you were paid the money?—Withdrew.

The question being objected.

They have not connected Wymer with Hobart.

Counsel heard.—Court cleared.

Resolved, That the Counsel be not now permitted to examine the witness to acts of bribery done by Wymer, it not appearing to the Committee that Wymer was an agent at the election.

Counsel called in and acquainted therewith.

Witness again.

Were there any other executions against any of the Freeman of Norwich, besides those you have mentioned, before and at the election?—Yes.

Name them?—Mr. Roach paid me them.—Withdrew.

The examination objected to on the same ground as the former.

Counsel heard.—Court cleared.

Resolved, That the Counsel for the Petitioner do proceed.

Called in and acquainted therewith.—Adjourned.

Luncheon

Lunee 26<sup>o</sup> Die Feb. 1787.

JOHN HARMAN, sworn.

What was the name of the Freeman whose debt Roach paid?—John Piggen, he is a Freeman.

What was the amount of that debt?—5s. 4d.

On what day was this before or during the election?

In August.

Is this the only instance within your knowledge of a debt paid by Mr. Roach on account of a Freeman, against whom you had an execution?—Yes.

Were any debts of the Freeman paid you by any other persons?—Yes.

By whom?—Clover.

Do you know who had this demand of Piggen, who was plain'tiff?—James Blogg.

For what was the money due?

Cannot tell; I do not know that Blogg is free, he is a publican.

Was it due for a publican's bill?—I cannot tell.

What time in August was this?—Cannot tell.

What conversation passed when the money was paid?

Very little; Piggen was with me when I received the money of Roach.

Was there any conversation between Roach and Piggen?

I do not remember.—Withdrew.

CHARLES JOHNSON, sworn.

What are you?—A journeyman weaver at Norwich.

Were you employed at the last election?

Yes, in the capacity of a runner.

What was you to receive?

15s. a week. I know Roach.

Had you any conversation with him on the subject of the election?

Yes, I took down four or five of Sir Thomas Beevor's friends to Roach's.

By whose desire did you take these men to Roach's?

By the men's.

What did they say to Roach?

They asked him for some money, and Mr. Roach replied, what quantity of money would you require? the men

men said seven guineas and a half amongst them, two guineas each for three, and one guinea and a half for one.

Did they say what they were to have the money for?

Yes, to vote for Hobart only.

Did you see Roach pay them any money at this time?

Yes, one half guinea on terms of meeting these four men at Mr. Varnish's the next day.

Did any conversation pass between them as to what was to happen at Mr. Varnish's the next day?

Yes, at Roach's house one of the men made reply, he must have some money before he went home; Roach replied, he had no money about him.

Question repeated.

The men were disputing about demanding their money, and Roach pulled out his gold watch, and said, that was worth ten guineas, take that in part upon terms of meeting the next day at eleven o'clock at Varnish's. They were to have seven guineas and a half, and Mr. Roach said, take that in part till I meet you at Varnish's to-morrow.

What is the name of them?

One Winter, I believe, Moses W——, James Dennis, one Mellert, and one Dunn; I do not know their Christian names. Dennis was the man that pressed for the money.

When was this?

The 6th day of the month, the fortnight before the election came on, I do not know the month, I rather think it was the month before the election; I am sure it was on the 6th of the month, and a fortnight before the election, I am positive of that; that I know by what the friends have told me that were concerned; I cannot tell the day of the week.

What time of day was it?

Between the hours of two and three, I am sure of it.

I voted for Beevor, because I was not used according to promise; I told them at first if I was not used as other men I would vote for Sir Thomas Beevor, I told Mr. Allam the sadler so, Mr. Earl who paid me my week's money.

Had you determined to vote for Beevor when the men came?—No; I was a friend to Hobart then?

Was you for Hobart at the former election?—No.

Did you take the men to Roach's house?

Yes, they had promised me to vote for Mr. Hobart.

Did not they tell you they were in Beevor's interest?

They told me if Mr. Hobart's would bestow a trifle of money on them to clear their landlords, then they would vote for Hobart.

Had



Had they applied to Roach first to get the money?

Yes, he had denied giving them money.

Did this proposal come from you or them?

They came and offered their service; I took them to Mr. Roach the same day.

Who was present besides you and Roach, and these four men?

A young gentleman of a doctor, I never saw him before, Mr. Roach said, Doctor; when we were drinking in the parlour, Roach said, "Doctor your health." I cannot tell who he was, I do not know where he lives; we men had four bottles of wine, and the Doctor and Roach ale: the Doctor was there all the time. I am positive Roach said, what quantity of wine do you require. All Norwich men, and journeymen weavers, one had but one guinea and a half, because he did not owe so much rent. They said they must have it to vote for Mr. Hobart only, I took it as a plumper, they could not split their votes.—— He said take the watch in part on promise to meet them at Mr. Varnish's, they were to return the watch when they received the money. I did not go with them to Varnish's. They voted for Sir Thomas Beevor. They did not receive their money, only one half guinea.

Do you mean to swear that Mr. Roach ever said he would give them the seven guineas and a half?

Yes, I will positively.

What were his words?

His reply was, "take half a guinea in part, and to-morrow I will meet you at Varnish's," upon paying the remainder of the money, and then they making a dispute he gave Dennis half a guinea, and said, "take this watch in part," they did not take it.

Was the half guinea given to drink to get rid of them?

No, in part of the seven guineas and a half.

Are you positive?

Yes, nothing said about, take this to drink; he gave me one shilling and six-pence to get the men some victuals and drink, I did not ask him for it; we did spend the half guinea though it was not given on those terms, it was given to vote for Mr. Hobart.——We made a treat of it and drank Mr. Beevor's and Mr. Hobart's healths.

Did not you, after this conversation, go and inform some of Sir Thomas Beevor's friends of it?

Yes, after they used me ill.

How soon after the meeting at Roach's?

Six or seven days.

What

What before election?—Yes.

Who did you inform?

Mr. Crow, after they used me ill.

Had you any conversation with any of Sir Thomas Beevor's managers about taking these men to Mr. Roach's before you took them there?—No.

What was the ill usage?

Sunday before the election, seven of Mr. Hobart's men came up to me, and asked me if I would go and take as far as one shilling a man, at the Golden Lion; I went with them, they had got one Mr. Winter, trying to turn him over to Mr. Hobart; he was one of Mr. Beevor's friends; we went to the public house, and the leader of the seven called for beer, we having an order for one shilling a piece; they slipped away one at a time, all but Tom Johnson, and one Fuller; I said, I cannot think where they are gone; the landlord said, he should not draw any more beer till he saw the order; then said I, let us pay the reckoning, the other two had no money; the landlord said, is there not one of Mr. Hobart's runners here, I said, yes, and he said I should pay the reckoning; and so I paid, and they took me to treat me and they left me in pawn to pay the reckoning: I paid it; I had money.—When I came out Tom Johnson said, if you will only come back and moderate your passion, I will take care it shall be made up to you; I then said I will go into the market, and declare who I would vote for, and I went into the market and said, I would vote for Sir Thomas Beevor; some blamed me for turning my coat.

How much did you pay?

A quart of beer; I never was repaid it, Mr. Beevor's friends never paid me; I never asked them, I asked Mr. Hobart's friends.—I never acted as a runner to Mr. Hobart's friends after that, I received no pay, I never applied to Mr. Hobart. I applied to Allam and Earl, not to Roach, I was not paid for the last week; they put me down as a runner but never employed me to do any work; the four men applied to me not I to them.

What promise did they make to you?

Not being paid what I spent, I never acted as a runner, but received 15s. a week.

Did you receive this money on any condition?

To vote for Hobart; the election began on a Friday.

Am I to understand you, that you positively swear that Roach said he would give these men seven guineas and a half to vote for Hobart?—Yes.

O

Did

Did you see him pay the half guinea to Dennis as a part of the money?—Yes.

Are you sure that when he offered his watch it was a pawn for the remainder of his money?

Yes. I was put down as a runner to vote for Hobart.

Who put you down as a runner?

Mr. Earl and Mr. Roach were present; and Mr. Allam, at the Three Tuns in White-lion-lane; their own men applied to me, Earl spoke to me first, they said they would put me down on promise to vote for Mr. Hobart, Tom Johnson brought me up to them. After they had agreed I was to be put down as a runner, Mr. Earl took me to his house.

Who said to you, you shall be a runner, on terms of voting for Mr. Hobart?

Mr. Earl, Mr. Allam and Mr. Roach all said I should be a runner, on promise of voting for Mr. Hobart, at the Three Tuns, all said so, Johnson was there too when the agreement was made; Johnson voted for Hobart.

Had you any reason to remember the day of the month of meeting at Mr. Roach's?

Because the men told me it was the 6th yesterday. Dennis told me so three or four days after the election was over besides; I did not remember it. I should not have left Mr. Hobart if they had not used me ill in not paying for the beer, I put my hand in my pocket and threw down a shilling, and said I would scorn the party. Mr. Allam had promised to give me a coat before, but if they had not used me ill at the public house, I should have dropped it.

Was Tom Johnson in the room when Earl, Allam and Roach promised to make you a runner at the Tuns?

Yes. I got a coat of Mr. Horth an upholsterer, a friend of Mr. Hobart; the Sunday sen'night before the election.

What day was you engaged as a runner at the Three-Tuns?

I think six weeks before the election, I was engaged on a Friday, I received five shillings a week pay.

When was you engaged, was it morning?

Yes, noon. Nobody but Earl, Roach and Allam, and Tom Johnson in the room. I had a coat and a side-saddle to vote for Mr. Hobart; the saddle from Allam.

Withdrew.

THOMAS



THOMAS JOHNSON, sworn.

I am a Freeman of Norwich; I am a worsted weaver.

Was you employed at the election before last as a runner for Mr. Hobart?—Yes.

What were you to receive?

Mr. Roach told me I should be well satisfied.

Was you satisfied for acting as a runner?—No.

What sum remained due to you?

Forty-five shillings.—At the last election, when I went to Mr. Roach, at the King's Head, I asked him what he was going to set me down for; he said as a runner, and he told me I should be well satisfied for it; I acted all the time. Withdrew.

EDWARD SHARP, sworn.

Have you been in the room when another witness was examined?

Yes; all the time; I have been out, and saw those persons who were to be examined.

Did you in your conversation acquaint them with any matter on which the other witnesses had been examined?

No; they asked me whether the man had spoke any thing about the gold watch; I told them no.——Withdrew.

JOHNSON again.

Was any sum of money due for the election of 1784? Forty-five shillings.

Was you paid it at this election?—Yes.

By whom?—Mr. Roach.

Did any conversation happen between you and Mr. Roach when he paid you this money?—Yes.

What was it?

He said Master Johnson don't you come to take this money to fight us with our own weapons; I told him I should not, if I could be well satisfied, and he desired me to come up the next morning, and I should be well satisfied for it if I would vote for Mr. Hobart. I received a guinea of Mr. Roach.

Where did this conversation pass?—At Mr. Roach's house.

Any body present besides you and Roach?

Yes, his wife, and a young man.

When was it?

About a fortnight or three weeks before the election; in the forenoon, about 11 o'clock.—I voted for Beevor.

Was your vote promised to Beevor when you applied to Roach?—Yes.

Did any one desire you to go to Roach?

Yes, the friends at our club; a Beevor's club; at the Lock and Key, in St. John's Sepulchre; our club met there Monday and Saturday every week during the contest; George Playford is tenant of the house; Mr. Thompson is owner; he is a Beevor; he supplies the house with beer; 30, 40, and 50 Freemen used to meet there; I saw Sir Thomas Beevor there once of a Monday; I told my friends I had been to Mr. Roach, after I had been; the money was due to me, and my friends told me I was to blame if I did not seek after it.

How much a week was you to have at the former election?

Mr. Roach never told me.

Then how came your demand to be forty-five shillings?

Because my partner talked so.

How long did that contest last?

I was running backwards and forwards for three weeks.

Had you ever applied for the money till this time?

I was up and down in the King's Head yard to get it, but never could.

When you got the guinea did you promise to vote for Hobart?

He made me promise to vote for Mr. Hobart before he would give me the guinea; this was part of the forty-five shillings owing to me.

How much had you received before the last election?

Nothing, my friends told me if I would not say I would vote for Mr. Hobart, I should not get my money; if I had received the whole money, the forty-five shillings, I would have voted for Mr. Hobart.——Withdrew.

JAMES MIDDLETON, sworn.

I am a Freeman of Norwich; I am a worsted weaver; I live at Norwich.

Was you applied to, to vote at the election?

Yes, before the election, first, by Sir Thomas Beevor's people; I went to Mr. Beevor's treats for a month, and then I was applied to go to Mr. Hobart's treat, and I should have so much a week if I would promise my vote for Mr. Hobart; I was to have half a guinea a week.

Who applied to you?

I went to Mr. Roach; saw him; he told me to go home to my work, and to come every week for my money, and I should have half a guinea a week; I received five shillings each week for the first two from Mr. Roach; I was to have had half a guinea a week; the third week I received half a guinea.

What

What was you to do for this?

He bad me go to my work.

What was he to give you for this?

I promised to vote for Mr. Hobart; I did promise him in consequence of this.

Did you vote for him in consequence of this money you received.—Yes, and for nothing else.

Did you do any work or service for this money?

Nothing; I received two half guineas and five shillings. The Tuesday before the election I went to Mr. Kerrison's farm. Mr. Hakeney came with a letter from Mr. Roach to go to Kerrison's farm, where I was to be till the day of the election; there were two others there, one a Freeman, and the other was the son-in-law, and was to take care of his father-in-law; I went in a coach, neither drunk nor sober. I staid at Kerrison's till the day of the election; I lived very well at Kerrison's.

Who carried you to vote?

There were five people in the coach, no gentleman among us. I saw Mr. Kerrison's brother at the farm, it is about nine miles from Norwich. Nobody went with me to receive any money at Mr. Roach's; I saw Mr. Duffie receive 5s. there; Duffie of St. Giles's, he is a weaver, he voted for Beevor, we were called in one after the other. There was nobody by when Roach and I were together and had the conversation.

Where was Sir Thomas Beevor's treat?

The Fountain at St. Bennet's Gate; I never saw Sir Thomas Beevor there, he came to my house.

How came they to employ you to go for Mr. Hobart?

I went for the money's sake.

How came it, as your bargain was for half a guinea that you took five shillings?

Mr. Roach told me, he did not know when the election would come on, and he could not afford to give me more.

Was not you a runner?

He put me down as one, but I never did any thing for it; I was to have the half-guinea as a runner. I went of one errand, and that was all; I am sure of that; they came to persuade me to go to the farm for fear Sir Thomas Beevor's people should get me away, I was not forced altogether, but they kept heartening me up a long time before I would go. I voted for Mr. Hobart for this money, Duffie did not.

Who did you vote for before?

I never voted at all before.

I saw



I saw Roach the morning I went to the farm, he told me to get away, I told him that Beevor's people were teasing me.

Did not you and your father apply to Roach and request he would send you out of the way?

My father did in my hearing, I did not say any thing against it. My father voted for Mr. Hobart. We were sent to the farm in consequence of that request, this was to Mr. Kerrison, the banker's brother.

Were they Freemen at Sir Thomas Beevor's treat?

Yes, Norwich men, all of us living in Norwich; I was never employed for Sir Thomas Beevor as a runner, I did not know one he had. I do not think he had any that did not run. My father asked me to vote for Mr. Hobart all the time; I went to Sir Thomas Beevor's feasts; he asked me heaps of times; I would not have voted for Mr. Hobart if it had not been for this money. Duffle told me he had 5s. he came out with the money in his hand and shewed it to me. I took up my freedom a little time before Mr. Wyndham came in.

Did you ever work at your loom those weeks?—Yes.

For whom?

Mr. Starling Day, the same as at any other time, and I received my full pay for that time from Mr. Day; I never went to Beevor's treats after I was taken into Mr. Hobart's pay.—Withdrew.

#### RICHARD BROOKS, sworn.

I am a worsted weaver of Norwich; I am a Freeman of Norwich, I live at Norwich, I voted.

Had you any conversation before you voted with Mr. J. Roach?

Yes, I was at his house with one Dan Taylor, and he asked me to drink, and I was coming out after, and he said to me, Friend Brooks let me speak to thee, and I went into his kitchen with him again, and then into his yarn room, and he said, you at the last election voted for Mr. Hobart; and he put his hand in his pocket and gave me half-a-guinea.

What did he say?

I asked him what it was for, he told me I was welcome to it; I took it, and he says, Brooks you look in a low capacity, I said that is chiefly my own fault; he said, it is in my power to be a friend, he said, if four or five guineas will be of any service to you, call on me next Sunday morning

morning and you shall have it, provided you promise to vote for Mr. Hobart. I voted for Sir Thomas Beevor. Roach took me away from Tyler. Tyler was a Freeman. This was Thursday or Friday about nine or ten days before the last election. Tyler voted for Hobart.

Did you attend any of the clubs ?

Yes; Beevor's, during the whole time; I attended the Wrestlers in St. James's; it was opened Mondays and Saturdays, for supper, up to the election day; open all that week I believe. I saw Sir Thomas Beevor there. Mr. Roach offered me the money without ever asking him for it.

Did you tell this to any body when you left Roach ?

I told my wife of it, within four or five hours, nearly the same; I did not ask for the half guinea; I did not think any thing about it; nobody but Roach and I were by; it was on the Thursday or Friday; Dan Tyler was by in the kitchen.

What passed ?

Nothing but drinking; Tyler told me he was going there, and said, you may as well walk in with me. Roach knew I was in Beevor's interest; I had promised in my own mind to vote for Sir Thomas Beevor, and several gentlemen of the party; I had the guinea without any promise. I did not promise after he offered me the five guineas, and I told him I had promised to vote for Sir Thomas Beevor; and he bid me consider of it by Sunday morning.

Before you came here, did you mention it to any body besides your wife ?

Not any body till I came here. I might mention a word or two before I came here, but never the whole. I never told any body that Mr. Roach had offered me four or five guineas. I never told the whole of it to any body.

Did you tell any body that Roach had offered you four or five guineas ?

Yes; to Mr. Morphew, this day week in the afternoon.

Did you ever mention it before that to any body but your wife ?

Not the particulars. I never went to Mr. Roach's before or since I went with Tyler. I have seen Mr. Wilkes, a methodist preacher, I have seen him with Sir Thomas Beevor's friends, he was not with Sir Thomas Beevor when he asked me for my vote.

Do you remember ever telling any body that you and your brother had received any sum of money, or promise, from Mr. Wilkes the methodist preacher ?—No.

Did

Did you ever tell Mr. Roach so?

No; neither money nor promise.

Had you ever any talk with Roach upon the subject?

Never.

Had you ever such conversation in Mr. Roach's Warehouse?—Never any thing of the kind passed.

Did not you tell Tyler when you came out that you had half a guinea?—No.

Did not Tyler ask you what had passed between you and Roach?

No; nor I did not tell him.

Did you tell any of Sir Thomas Beevor's friends of it that night?

No; only to my wife and Mr. Hobart; I never told any body I had received the half guinea. I voted for Sir Thomas Beevor; I said nothing about it at the poll; Mr. Roach never reproached me for voting for Mr. Hobart, though I took the half guinea. I never was a runner for Sir Thomas Beevor.—Withdrew.

JOHN CALLOW, sworn.

I am a Freeman; I am a cordwainer at St. Michael's, at Thorn in Norwich. I know Hamp.

Did you about the time of the late election receive any money from him?—Two pounds two shillings.

When?—19th September.

What for?

To discharge an apprentice of mine, Joseph Neale, his father is a Freeholder; Henry Sidal applied to me to discharge him; he was represented to me as a runner of Mr. Hobart's. (A note shewn him.) He gave me this for two guineas, to discharge my lad. (The note produced by Sidal to the witnesses.) Mr. Hamp paid me the two guineas; the other guinea marked on the back is not yet discharged.

For what was Neale's son to be discharged?

To secure the father's vote for Mr. Hobart.

How do you know that?

Neale told me so, in the presence of Sidal.—Withdrew.

The evidence being objected to by the Counsel for the Sitting Member, Counsel on both sides heard.

Court cleared.

Resolved, That the Counsel for the Petitioners be admitted to proceed in the evidence.

Counsel called in, and acquainted therewith.—Adjourned.

Martis,



Martis, 27 Die Feb. 1787.

JOHN CALLOW, sworn.

(His evidence of yesterday read to the witness.)

Thomas Neale the father told me so; this note was paid by Hamp.

When Neale told you so in the presence of Sidal, did Sidal contradict Neale?

Sidal said thus, what signifies talking Mr. Callow, you shall have your money; Tom Neale made answer again, "if they deceive me I'll deceive them." There it all ended till my note became due; when it became due I went after my money, and Sidal could not pay me, nor get Tom Neale; when they took me down to Mr. Hamp's, Tom Neale, Sidal, Brockhall and I went to Mr. Hamp's at White-Swan room, and John Brockhall told Hamp what I came for, and then I was called into the room. Mr. Hamp promised me upon his word and honour that he would pay me the day after the election, and I asked him what time it would be convenient for me to wait on him, and he told me any time after eight o'clock: I understood it to be any time after eight o'clock in the morning; and the election holding two days I could not go on the Saturday; I went on the Monday to Mr. Hamp's, and he was not at home; afterwards I went to the King's Head and he was not there, then I went home to my work. On Tuesday the 19th I saw Hamp at a house called Johnson's coffee-house, and he told me if it would be agreeable for me to wait on him in half an hour, I told him I would not come any more; I went to the bottom of the stairs, and he called to me to stop and he would borrow two guineas to pay me; he asked the woman of the house to lend him two guineas, and they were brought by a servant girl; Mr. Hamp asked me for the note, I told him I had it in my hand but I had a demand for another guinea on the back of the note, I told him I had a receipt on stamp paper, he said give me that and the two guineas will be avoided; I received the two guineas and gave a receipt for it; I have not given up the note, I have a guinea due on the back part of it. After I had given the receipt Mr. Hamp asked me the man's name, I said Tom Neale. He said, he should put it down to Tom Neale.

*Cross-examined.* How long had Neale's son been in your service?

P I cannot

I cannot say how long, a year and upwards, he ran-away once.

Had you any thoughts of parting with him before Neale the father applied to you?

I had no thoughts of parting with him, I meant him to stay his time out. He got into bad company and was forced to be married, a girl swore a child to him.

How long was that child sworn to your apprentice before Sidal came to you with Neale?

The child was sworn to him on the 10th of May, he was married the 23d of May; I mean last May.

After he was married how did he continue to behave to you?—He wanted to be his own man.

Did he ever apply to you to discharge him?

He asked me to discharge him; I told him I would not without some recompence.

When was it he applied to you to discharge him?

His father and he and his mother-in-law came to me the 24th of May, the day after he was married, and asked me what was to be done, I told them the lad was worth 10l. to me, and I would take 5l. and I would take it at a shilling a week before I would trouble the mayor about it.

How much in the whole did you ask to discharge your apprentice?

Five pounds; I would not have thanked any body to have taken him for 10l. if he had behaved well; they did not agree to give me the 5l.

Did they apply to you any more before Sidal came?

They told me they would not give me any thing, I should have both wife, child, and the boy; I went to the Mayor the 26th of May, I opened the cause to him, and he said he was my apprentice although he was married; the Mayor asked me, whether I was willing to part with him, and I told him no; then the Mayor told him to go home and serve his time as he ought to do.

How did your apprentice behave till the time that Sidal came to you?

Indifferently, he went away the 4th of June and did not return any more.

Did you know Sidal before he came to you with old Neale?—Yes.

In what way of life is he?

We call him a weaver tarton-man, or a fearnought weaver.

Is he a man of any substance?

He calls himself a wool comber, he put his mark to the note, he said he could not write.

Did

Did you expect Sidal to pay you when he gave you the note?—I did.

Did Neale bind himself to pay any thing?

No otherwise than you see, Sidal was the man to pay me.

Do you know whether old Neale was employed any way at the election?

Not that I know of, he told me he was a chairman for Mr. Hobart.—Withdrew.

DANIEL NEWMAN, sworn.

I am a fearnought maker, at Norwich; I am a Freeman at Norwich.

Was you applied to the last election to vote for Mr. Hobart?—Yes.

By whom?

By Mr. Hobart himself, he asked me for my vote, I told him I had promised it to Sir Thomas: Mr. Roach was in company, I had no further conversation with Mr. Hobart: Mr. Roach stoped a minute and asked my reason, I told him I had promised Sir Thomas. I saw Mr. Roach again the day before the election; Mr. Roach then offered me 1l. 5s. to vote for Mr. Hobart, which I refused. I voted for Sir Thomas Beeyor.

*Cross-examined.* Mr. Hobart and Mr. Roach came to me the first time in the course of his canvas. I voted for Mr. Hobart at the former election, I had changed my mind, because I had been used ill by the party: I never received any thing from his party.

Witness informed he is not bound to answer any question which may tend to criminate himself.

Have you had any promise of any thing from Sir Thomas or his party?

Never a penny, I have never been promised any thing.

In what respect was it the party had used you ill?

By promises which had never been performed. I had been promised to be put down as a runner: they had not paid me as a runner; I had acted as a runner and had not been paid: I was not a runner for Sir Thomas at this election, I was a chairman, my pay was a guinea, at once, after the election was over. I was put down as a Chairman from the first week of the canvas, it was after Sir Thomas's canvas. Sir Thomas canvassed me first, I promised him my vote the instant he canvassed me. It was a very little time afterwards that I was put down as a chairman, it might be



a week. I asked one of the managers, Mr. Muncie, to be put down as a chairman, I did not mention any thing to him that I had been ill used by the other party, I happened on Muncie in the street. There were several gentlemen present with Sir Thomas when he canvassed me. I never told Roach I was a chairman to Sir Thomas. I am positive that it was the day before the election I saw Roach. The chairman had white waistcoats, black breeches and a black bonnet; any body who saw me in that dress must know I was Sir Thomas's chairman, I had his colours too in my hat. I was not in that dress when Roach applied to me. I first put on the dress and colours the morning of the election, Mr. Roach began the conversation with me first; I was not angry with him when he offered me the money. There was nobody by but him and me, I was at Mr. Garthon's, a public house, the Curriers Arms. It was opened by Mr. Hobart, I went there to see a friend who came from London to vote for Mr. Hobart; Roach came in when I was there, my friend was not there, there was several people in the kitchen. I did not see the landlord, the landlady nor cook, I cannot tell any body that was there whom I knew. Roach bid me come into another room, I did not tell him I was chairman to Sir Thomas, he did not lock the door, the sum was 1l. 5s. that was offered. I had never been canvassed by any body, I was not to be chairman to Mr. Hobart, nor runner, nothing but a dry vote. I had ran eleven days the last election, my demand was 2s. 6d. a day, 1l. 7s. 6d. in the whole. This offer had nothing to do with that demand. He did not bid me keep it a secret, I told it to the first man who asked me. Mr. Muncie asked me whether I had received or been offered any money. Mr. Muncie is a provider at a master weaver's, he asked me first, about a month ago, long after the election, I never mentioned it before that time. Mr. Muncie knew nothing of my going to Garthon's. Nothing of this sort passed when Mr. Hobart and Mr. Roach were together.

*Re-examined.* I attended Sir Thomas Beevor as chairman.

**COURT.** The name of the person I went to look for at Garthon's was Joseph Higg.

When you had this conversation with Roach did any thing pass about your former demand?

Nothing at all; nothing more passed than he would give me 1l. 5s. to vote for Mr. Hobart; he offered it me first.

Did you ever send any message to Mr. Roach?

Never;

Never ; I am positive I said nothing to Mr. Roach about my demand at the last election ; I know Michael Hudson, keeper of a publick-house ; I am positive I never sent him to Mr. Roach ; I never said any thing to him about my demand at a former election ; I am positive I never sent him, or any body else to Mr. Roach.—Mr. Roach met me in the kitchen, and called me into the parlor, and said, Newman will you vote for Mr. Hobart ; I said, no, I have promised Sir Thomas Beevor ; and he said, if you will vote for Mr. Hobart I will give you 25s.—It was in the afternoon when this conversation happened ; it was after dinner.—The wages for chairmen is a common thing.—It was about three or four o'clock in the afternoon ; my dinner hour is about one.

Withdrew.

#### JOHN LE FEVRE, sworn.

I am a worsted weaver ; I am a Freeman of Norwich ; I was applied to the last election to vote for Mr. Hobart ; I gave my voice willingly to vote for Mr. Hobart ; I promised Mr. Hobart and Mr. Partridge to vote for him ; I promised them on account I worked for Justice Ives ; I thought it would please my master, that was my reason ; it was my mind to vote for him.

Was you employed in any capacity during the election ?

I was employed by Mr. Hamp as a runner ; I had 15s. a week ; I was on a fortnight before the election ; the first week I should have had 15s. and Mr. Hamp gave me 16s. the second week I received a guinea.

During all that time did you continue to receive the wages from your master ?

I did not carry any work home ; I received nothing for that fortnight for my work.—During the election I acted as a runner for Mr. Hobart ; my mind was to vote for Mr. Hobart ; I work by the piece for my master ; if we don't work we get no pay ; I did weave, but I did not carry any work home the two weeks immediately before the election ; when I was paid the first week, I told Mr. Hamp I had spent one shilling in the course of my service as runner, and he then gave me 16s.—Hamp said I might lay out four, or five, or six shillings, and I laid out five shillings ; I was willing to be under, and so I received one guinea for the second week ; I had promised Mr. Hobart and Mr. Partridge my vote before M. Hamp appointed me a runner.

Withdrew.

GEORGE

## GEORGE FREEMAN, sworn

I am a weaver at Norwich, I voted the last election for Sir Thomas Beevor ; I know Mr. Hamp ; I received four half guineas at the time of the election from him, weekly ; half a guinea a week ; it was for the election before this ; they owed me two guineas for that election ; I was employed as a runner and chairman ; I applied to Mr. Hamp the beginning of August ; I told him I would be glad to have 16s. and I would be satisfied ; I did not mean to vote for Mr. Hobart, they had used me so badly.

What passed when you went to Mr. Hamp's ?

I told him I should be glad to have the backward money ; he told me he knew nothing about it ; I said it was due to me ; I told him I would be glad of 16s. ; he said he would not pay me the 16s. ; he would allow me half a guinea a week as long as the election lasted ; I received the first half guinea that day ; I did nothing for it ; I went each Saturday till I had got two guineas ; he told me on the first Saturday if I would vote for Mr. Hobart he would allow me half a guinea a week as long as the election lasted ; I promised Hamp on the first meeting that I would on account of getting my money ; I had only applied for the money on that Saturday, and not before ; I did nothing for it, I only kept at home ; I ran no errands, nor did any thing at all.

*Cross-examined.* I had four half guineas in all ; I might have had more if I would have gone for it ; I had got my money that was due, and I wanted no more ; I told Hamp I would vote for Mr. Hobart in order to get my money ; to the best of my knowledge I was runner ten or eleven days at the former election, and the chair is a guinea ; Hamp told me he would put me down in the runner's book ; I never did any thing but go on Saturday morning for the money ; Hamp sent a runner to me (as the man told me) when I ceased to go for the half guineas ; I voted for Sir Thomas Beevor ; I know Hethel-Hall, I went there of my own accord the Tuesday morning before the election ; I walked there ; it is about seven miles from Norwich ; I staid there from the Tuesday till the Friday ; I had a mind to go there ; I told Mr. Taylor, the master-weaver, I had a mind to go there ; there was but few people there, ten or a dozen ; I was not cooped, because I went of my own accord ; I don't know that any of the others were cooped ; I don't know how many there were there ; there were not 30 there ; we drank beer



beer there ; no wine ; I did not see Sir Thomas there ; I believe there was some punch the night before the election ; I went to the election in a coach, not Sir Thomas's coach ; I was at London the first beginning of the canvas ; I walked from London ; I was paid as a London voter ; I had three guineas from Mr. Wilks ; I don't know how much my journey cost me ; I have a sister in London, and I generally come up once a year to visit her ; I never saw Mr. Wilks any where but in London ; I was paid after the election at the Angel, one of Sir Thomas's houses ; we were called in one at a time ; Mr. Wilks paid me ; I did not see any body else paid ; others were waiting at the door ; Wilks knew nothing about me ; I saw him at London, at the Tewksbury Church, which was a house opened for Sir Thomas ; the landlord's name is Baynes ; I did not know what I was to have ; I never said any thing about it ; I got five guineas by this last job, and I got the money that was due to me by Mr. Hobart ; Bargrave was the man that took me to Tewksbury Church, I knew none there but him ; the Angel was the house Sir Thomas was chaired from for what I know ; nothing passed between me and Mr. Wilks at the Tewksbury Church, but we drank together, and I promised him my vote for Sir Thomas Beevor ; I was not acquainted with any of the men at Hethell Hall ; Mr. Wilks ordered me to attend upon the London voters, as I declared in London ; I saw Mr. Wilks at the Tewksbury Church, Bargrave took me there ; I took no money of Mr. Wilks at that time ; I don't think it cost me a guinea in going down ; I was four days going down. it must have cost me half a guinea ; I had been in London before Mr. Hamp agreed about the half guineas ; I slept in the house at Hethell Hall ; when Mr. Hamp promised to set me down as a runner, I did not refuse it ; when I promised Hamp to vote for Mr. Hobart, I did not mean it ; it might be eight or nine weeks before the election that I came to London ; when I polled at the election my parish was taken down as Whitechapel in London ; Mr. Wilks ordered me to vote with the Londoners ; when I was in London I lived at Whitechapel ; I never told Mr. Wilks that I lived at Norwich ; he did not ask me any questions about it ; he ordered me to attend upon the London voters when they came down ; they asked me for the copy of my freedom in London, and I had it with me, and produced it.

Withdrew.

WILLIAM

WILLIAM REEVE, sworn.

I am a weaver ; I live in Lenham in Suffolk ; I am a Freeman of Norwich ; I voted at the last election ; I met Mr. Hobart in the street, and he told me if I would give him my vote he would get me a pension ; I was discharged from the army ; I voted for him in consequence of this promise ; my brother voted for him the same as I did ; I know Mr. Hamp, I have seen my brother in company with him ; we told Mr. Hamp we wanted some money, and he bid us come to his house, he gave my brother twelve shillings for one week, and when I went to him he gave me half a guinea ; we went the next Saturday following, and my brother had then twelve shillings, and I had thirteen shillings and sixpence ; the day after the election my brother and I went, and we had a guinea between us, this was on a Sunday ; Mr. Hamp gave us this money to vote for Mr. Hobart, else I should not have voted for him ; we had two guineas apiece the Wednesday following.

*Cross-examined.* I knew Mr. Hobart when I saw him in the street ; I had been told by other people it was him ; I never saw him before that day when I was carried by one of his people to see him, and to get this thing done for me ; I live 52 miles from Norwich ; I was at Norwich nine weeks before the election ; I cannot tell what day it was I met him ; it was in St. Giles's Street, about five weeks before the election, it was some time in the morning. Mr. Hobart was alone ; my brother was not with me ; one Isaac Miles was along with me, he led me to him ; it was in the lower part of the street, near the church, this man spoke to Mr. Hobart, and told him, that I was come to vote for him if he would get me my pension, I mean the Chelsea pension ; Miles is a poor man in the workhouse, he voted for Mr. Hobart. Mr. Hobart told me, that he would do the most in his power to get me my bread, in case he got into the house ; Miles was present, we met him, we were going to see for him, I did not see any body pass by at the time. I staid in Norwich from that time till the time of the election, I worked at my business there ; my brother is a weaver, and lives at Stow Market, we both came together, but my brother went back again ; my brother came again three weeks before the election. I saw Mr. Hobart several times afterwards, he used to come to our club to see us, I went to my day's work, I never was employed by him, I was not taken down as a runner, he never asked me to do any thing. When I went to Mr. Hamp's there was

no-

nobody but him in the parlour, I never went in with my brother before the last day, he shewed me the money when he came out; I went in and asked him for some money, and he gave me half a guinea, and told me to come the Saturday following. Mr. Crow canvassed me for Sir Thomas Beevor, I told him I was promised to Mr. Hobart; I have a wife and child at Lenham, I have lived at Norwich ever since, I came to Norwich about a little business. I spoke to people before-hand that I would speak to Mr. Hobart; I mentioned it to several people that I had a petition to Mr. Hobart for this favour; I got the petition drawn up, and delivered it to Mr. Hobart; I did not mention it to any body what Mr. Hobart had said to me but my brother, I do not know that I ever mentioned it to any body else before I came into this room; when I received the first half guinea there was nobody present but Hamp, my brother was at the door; when I received the second nobody was present but servants running backwards and forwards.

*Re-examined.* There was one man came to me before I came to town, and I told him something of what had passed between Mr. Hobart and me.

COURT. I promised Mr. Hobart if he got this favour I would give him a vote, I afterwards delivered a paper to Mr. Hobart, and he told me he had written to London about it, but had received no answer; by the paper I mean the petition. It was before I received the money from Hamp that I told Crow I had promised my vote; it was money I wanted, money is tempting to a poor man. I have served nine years in the army and nine in the militia, I was discharged in Germany. I did nothing as a chairman, my brother and I were set down as chairmen, but we were told we need not do any thing, and we walked about and did nothing; we did not wear the chairman's dress; Hamp told us we had no occasion to do any thing, we should have one guinea for the chair; this was five or six weeks before the election. I do not know whether I took the half guinea before I saw Mr. Crow or not. If I had met Mr. Hamp I did not know him, the first time I ever saw him about this business was a fortnight before the election; the first time I went to Mr. Hamp about money was at that time; I was set down as a chairman at the King's Head about five weeks before the election, and when I went to Mr. Hamp's about a fortnight before the election, Mr. Hamp told us I was set down as a chairman, I should have a guinea the chair. I am positive that Mr.

Q

Hamp



Hamp told me I need not do any thing ; this was when I went for the half guinea.—Withdrew.

JOSEPH GLOVER, sworn.

I am a yarnmaker and woolcomber, I reside at Norwich, I voted at the last election for Mr. Hobart ; I know Mr. John Harrison, I know Mr. George Wymer an attorney of Norwich, I remember seeing them together at my house, I was not one of Mr. Hobart's Committee, I was present several times at the meetings of his friends at the King's Head, I wished to serve him as a friend as much as was in my power.

Do you know of any payments made to Mr. Harman in the month of September of any kind ?

I recollect there was a payment made, I do not recollect what sum.

Who was the money paid by ?

By Mr. Wymer, I do not know the sum.

Did you occasionally see Mr. Wymer at the King's Head ?

I believe I have seen Mr. Wymer there.

Do you know whether Mr. Wymer was one of those who conducted the election for Mr. Hobart ?

I never understood Mr. Wymer in that light at all.

In what light then did you understand him ?

Merely as an individual, not particularly interested in the contest.

Do you know from whom he received the money which he paid to Harman ?—I do not.

Did you make any payments to Mr. Harman in the month of September ?

I object to answering that question.—Withdrew.

Called in again.

Question repeated.

As to payments, I recollect making several in my life ; I recollect making a payment in September to Harman.

To what amount ?

Ten shillings and Fourpence, or near half a guinea.

Do you recollect what time in September ?

I believe the 7th.

Was any person present ?—Yes.

Name them ?

The man's name was Isaac Vickers, I believe he was a Freeman of Norwich.

Did you advance that money out of your own pocket, or out of any other fund ?

I paid him the money out of my own pocket.

Was

Was you repaid it by any person?

The money was paid to me.

By whom?—That I cannot expressly declare.

When was it paid, where, and in what manner?

I cannot justly say at what time it was paid, I do not know how soon it was advanced, I cannot say whether it was paid before the election day came on or after.

Where was it paid to you again?—I believe, at my house.

Who was present at the time?

The money was brought me, if I recollect right, by a person of the name of Drinkale (his real name) a man that lived close by me, because on my sending up a note to the King's Head.

To whom was that note addressed?

It was either addressed to Mr. Hamp, or Mr. Hardingham, at the King's Head, I do not know which.

Where is that note now, is it lost?

I am sure I know nothing of it.

Upon your oath, do not you know it is destroyed?

Upon my oath, I do not know it is destroyed.

Who was Drinkale?—He is a weaver.

How came he to be the person sent, was he a runner to Mr. Hobart's Committee?

I believe he was, if I recollect right; I sent my note by him.

Do you know from whom Wymer received the money he advanced?—I do not know.

Was any other person present but Vickers at the time you advanced the money to Harman?

I do not recollect any person being present but Harman, Vickers, and myself.

Was it for a debt due from you to Harman?

No; it was for a debt of Vickers's.

Due to whom?

I cannot recollect who the debt was due to, but it was for an execution from the Court of Conscience; Mr. Harman was an officer of that court.

Did you take any note from Vickers for this money?

Yes, I believe I have got that note. (produces it.) viz.

(On one side)

Received, Sept. 7th, 1786, of Isaac Vickers, the Sum of ten shillings and fourpence debt and charges of an execution at the suit of James March, by me

£0 : 10s. : 4d.

J. HARMAN.

(On the other side)

Borrowed and received, Sept. 7th, 1786, of Mr. Jos. Clover, jun. the sum of ten shillings and sixpence, which I promise to pay to him, or his order, on demand, witness my hand

Witness

ISAAC VICKERS.

JOHN HARMAN.

This is the note I took at the time, I have had it in my possession ever since, I never delivered it to any friend of Mr. Hobart's, it has never been out of my possession; Vickers is a weaver, I have known him a very considerable time, he lived in the parish I was born in; I never lent him any money prior to that time, nor have I lent him any since.

By whose desire did you lend this?

At the request of Vickers, I consulted nobody before I lent it.

How came you to send to Mr. Hamp or Mr. Hardingham to repay it?

I believe I sent an account of it with some other expences, I do not know which of them I sent it to.

What other expences; have you any account of them?

No.

What sort of expences?

I believe I sent a servant of mine into the country on a message concerning the election business; I believe that was the principal.

Was it sent as an article of election expence paid by you on account of the election?

I can give no other construction to it, but that it was in that account.

Was it paid by those who paid it as an article of expence incurred about the election?

I cannot say what their ideas were.

Had you any other claim upon Mr. Hamp, or Mr. Hardingham, but on the subject of the election?

None at all, If I recollect.

Question repeated.

No, I had not; this was to prevent Vickers going to goal.

Did Mr. Hamp, or Mr. Hardingham, ask you to advance the money to Vickers?—No.

Can you state the amount of all you received from them relative to the business of the election?

I believe the amount of all, during the contest, for horses and various things, was about 28l.

Did



Did you ever canvas with Mr. Hobart?

I went with Mr. Hobart round part of my own parish to shew him where the people lived?

Was Vickers one of the persons to whom you shewed Mr. Hobart?

No, he did not live in my parish, he lived in the parish where I was born. Vickers never promised to vote for Mr. Hobart; I do not recollect that I ever asked him.

Did you expect Vickers ever to pay you back the 10s. 4d.?

I do expect him to pay the money to me or my order.

Have you ever demanded it of Vickers?

I believe I have since the election.

How lately?—I think about two months ago.

Had you then heard that Sir Thomas Beevor meant to petition the House of Commons?

Yes; such reports were circulated soon after the election.

Upon your oath do you mean Vickers to pay you a second time what Mr. Hamp or Mr. Hardingham have already paid you?

The note being in my possession at that time, I had conceived I had a right to demand the money of Vickers.

Question repeated.

I expect the money will be repaid (as the note I think is drawn payable to me or my order) and my order will consequently be to Mr. Hamp or Mr. Hardingham; I conceive myself as merely the holder of the note.

State then, as this note is payable to your order, why you did not indorse it to Mr. Hamp or Mr. Hardingham when they paid it you?

The note never being delivered up to Mr. Hamp or Mr. Hardingham, I did not conceive the indorsement necessary.

As you considered yourself as the holder of the note for Hamp or Hardingham, and that the money was to be demanded against Vickers for their use, why did not you deliver it up and indorse it?

Because such a requisition has never been made.

Do you know Mr. Stephen Arnold of Pockthorpe in Norwich?—Yes.

Do you know Henry Butcher?—No.

Do you know John Branch.—No.

What employment had Arnold during the election?

I do not know he had any employment during the election, I never saw him at the King's Head; I do not know he was a runner; I know very little about him.

*Cross*

*Cross examined.* Do you know James Marsh?

No, I did not recollect his name being in the note; I never talked with Mr. Hobart about this money in my life. I have not thought much about it since the time.

Do you know whether Vickers was put down as a runner?

No; Harman had taken Vickers into custody upon execution.

COURT. Did you know that Vickers was engaged to vote for Mr. Hobart at the time you paid the money to Harman?—No.

Did you know it at the time you transmitted an account of this payment to Mr. Hamp or Mr. Hardingham?—No.

What was your reason for transmitting an account of this payment to Mr. Hamp or Mr. Hardingham?

I really cannot give any particular reason for it, I transmitted the account to Mr. Hamp, and with the other expences that were annexed to it; I thought I should be paid again.

What do you mean by your other expences?

In that note was included some expences of my servant going into the country to give information to a Voter how to come up to vote.

Were these expences incurred by the part you had taken to support the interest of Hobart, what had you done?

They were.

How happened it that you should annex to your account of those expences a charge incurred by the relief you had given to a Voter who you did not know was in the interest of Mr. Hobart?

I know no other reason why I did it but that I expected it to be repaid with the rest of my expences.

Do you mean by the rest of your expences, the rest of your election expences?—Yes.

If you had not thought it an election expence, would you have sent to Mr. Hamp or Mr. Hardingham?

I really thought it an election expence.

Was the money sent to you immediately upon the receipt of the note you sent by Drinkale?

I believe it was within a short time.

Had you ever any conversation with Hamp or Hardingham about that money?

I do not recollect that ever I had.

Did they ever express a surprise that you had made such a demand?—No.——Withdrew.

JAMES

JAMES GOODWIN, sworn.

I was clerk to a brewer, the late Alderman Thompson, and am now to the executors.

Who was you clerk to during the late election at Norwich?

I was clerk to the Committee, Mr. Hobart's election Committee at the King's Head at Norwich.

When did you enter upon that employment?

About a week after the first beginning of the canvas, in July.

How long did you continue to be clerk?

Till after the election.

Who were the members of that Committee?

Alderman Partridge; I do not know who was chairman; Alderman Starling Day, Alderman Richard Peete, Mostyn John Armstrong, Messrs. John Harvey, Robert Harvey, senior and Robert Harvey junior, Mr. John Day and Mr. Thomas Day, Mr. Hardingham, Mr. Hamp and Mr. Blake; Mr. Roach was one of the Committee.

How many houses were opened by the Committee for Mr. Hobart? — Between thirty and forty.

When were those houses opened?

They were opened twice a week for many weeks before the election, and down to the time of the election.

Who were the bills of the publicans paid by?

Mr. Hardingham.

Out of what fund?

I do not know; the money was drawn from Mr. Kerri-son's by Mr. Hamp and Mr. Hardingham.

Do you know the amount of those bills?

Between 2 and 3000l. for treats and cockades.

How much is the amount of bills brought in to the Committee and not yet paid? — 2000l. or thereabouts.

Is that for treats in the election week?

Yes, all the bills were paid up till the week of the election.

Have you settled your accounts with the Committee?

No.

What was the nature of your employment?

I went to tender my vote and services for Mr. Hobart.

How was you afterwards employed by Mr. Hobart and the Committee?

In making copies for the several canvasses.

What else?

Any



Any thing of writing I was employed about ; in entering all the returns of the canvas into a book.

Do you know whether any person wrote any orders for the opening of houses ?—I do ; I wrote some myself.

How many persons were set down as runners, chairmen, and stavesmen ?

I do not know, I was not employed in that business.

Whose business was that ?

It was done at another house.

Do you know whether any Voters were put down as chairmen, stavesmen, or runners ?—No.

How often did the Committee meet ?

Sometimes once a week, and sometimes twice, sometimes Mr. Hobart attended the meetings of the Committee.

Did you write any letters by order of the Committee ?  
No.

Do you know George Wymer ?—I do.

State to the Committee whether he was employed by Mr. Hobart's Committee.

Not that I know of, I never saw him there but once or twice to the best of my knowledge ; he asked me to look at the canvass book.

Do you know of any business done by Wymer for the Committee ?—None.

Do you know of any money paid to Wymer by the Committee or on their account ?

No, I do do not.

Do you know of any orders given to Wymer by the Committee, or any of them to do any business ?—No.

Do you know of any cloaths being given to any persons Freemen of Norwich ?—No.

Of any money given ?—No.

Of any promises of money, cloaths, or employments or gifts of any sort ?—No, I know of none.

Have you got the books of the Committee with you ?

They are at my lodgings in the Strand ; they are in a box, in exactly the same state they were when I was at Norwich ; the box has not been opened, it contains an account of the public house and other bills, and some other papers.

Does it contain any book of the entries of business from day to day ?

Not that I know of, I do not know that any such book was kept. I know one Lestley, I do not know what employment he had under the Committee ; I do not know of any money paid to him.

Do

Do you know Stephen Arnold ?

I know the name, I do not know that he was an agent.

Do you know Mr. Roach ?

Yes, I do not know that he was an agent.

There was only one Committee, no Select Committee ;  
Mr. Roach attended the Committee sometimes.

Upon your oath what did Mr. Roach do for the Committee or Mr. Hobart ?

I do not know what he did otherwise than he came to look at the books.

Did he draw upon the bankers ?

No, I do not know that he did ; I do not know of any sums of money paid by the Committee to Roach ; I did not keep the account of monies, Mr. Hardingham did ; the account of monies is not in my box.

Where did you see that account last ?

In Mr. Hardingham's possession at the King's Head, about a week after the election, I do not know that I have seen it since. I know of no money or cloaths given by Mr. Roach to Voters. Withdrew. Adjourned.

Mercurii 28<sup>o</sup> Die Feb. 1787.

JAMES GOOWIN, sworn.

(His evidence of yesterday read to the witne(s).)

What book do you produce ?

I have brought the box with all the books that are in my possession.

(Produces the box.)

Have you produced all the books and papers that were in your custody at the time the notice was served upon you ?

Yes.

Do you know of any other books and papers relative to this election which you have not produced ?

No, these are all the papers I brought from Norwich to London.

Have you since the election closed, and before you left Norwich, given any books and papers to any person ?

I have, to Mr. Bygrave an attorney at Norwich. I do not know what they were, they were in a box by themselves.

Will you positively swear that you are ignorant what papers were in that box ?

R

I do

I do not know any thing about what papers were in that box.

On what day was that box sent to Mr. Bygrave's?

I cannot recollect the day; it is two months since.

By whose directions did you send this box to Mr. Bygrave's?

I believe it was Mr. Bygrave's servant came for it?

Had this box been in your custody from the time the election ended till you delivered it to Mr. Bygrave's servant?

It had.

By whom were these books and papers put into the box originally?—By Mr. Bygrave I believe.

Will you swear you did not put them into the box yourself?—I did not.

How long did this box continue in your custody?

I do not know.

Did it continue in your custody from the time the election closed till you delivered it to Mr. Bygrave's servant?

It did.

During all that time had you never looked into the box to see what papers it contained?

I never examined the papers, I opened the box to take out two rulers.

Did you never see the titles of the books and papers in that box?—No, I did not.

To whom did the contents of this box and the box itself belong; did they belong to the Committee for conducting Mr. Hobart's election?—They did.

How came you to deliver to Mr. Bygrave the box containing the papers and books belonging to the Committee?

Because he was attorney to the Committee.

Have you ever delivered to any other person, besides Mr. Bygrave, books or papers belonging to the Committee?

No, I never did.

Is the Committee to understand that the papers you now produce, are all the papers and books belonging to that Committee that were in your custody during and since the election, except those you delivered to Mr. Bygrave?

They are.

*Cross examined.* Do you remember the time Mr. Hobart's canvass began?

I do not remember the exact time.

I offered my vote voluntarily to Mr. Hobart on the Wednesday after the canvass began; I was not asked for my vote by him; I voted for him at the former election.



Is the Committee to understand that your duty as clerk was confined to entering into the books of the Committee the minutes of what passed from time to time?

It was confined to entering the canvass. I had no concern with the money.

Did any money pass through your hands?

I went sometimes by the order of Mr. Hardingham to Kerrison's, and I delivered the money I so received to Mr. Hardingham.

When you said 2000*l.* or 3000*l.* was expended, can you tell in what way (what articles of disbursement that sum consisted of)?

Meat, drink, cockades, &c. some staves; no chairmen in that account that I know of.

*Re-examined.* Did you ever pay any part of the money you received by Hardingham's order at Kerrison's to any other person besides him?

If Mr. Hardingham was not there when I returned I gave it to Mr. Hamp.

To any other person?—No, never.

Have you by Mr. Hardingham's or Mr. Hamp's directions paid any bills for this election?

I paid one or two people; I paid one five guineas on account, his name was Morell; I paid on account of his bill as a publican.

By whose directions did you make this payment?

The woman, his wife, came to my house, and said she was in distress for money; I lent her five guineas myself, which sum I received again from Mr. Hamp.

Did Mr. Hamp pay you this sum as so much money advanced by you to this publican on account of his bill?

He did.

Is this the only bill you have paid?

One cockade bill I paid, it amounted to 36*s.* I have paid no other bills.

What has become of the bill which you advanced five guineas on account of?

That and the cockade bill are in the box; I was not present when the box was made up that was sent to Mr. Bygrave's; the bills that were paid went up till the time the writ came down.

Do you mean to say that the 2000*l.* now outstanding is due for expences incurred since the writ went down?

I believe it is; what is actually paid is up to the time the writ came down; in the 2000*l.* is included the expence

of the two election days, Friday and Saturday. The box I have now produced was sent by the Committee to my house, I never opened it, but to take out the two rulers. Withdrew.

JAMES BRITTON, sworn.

I am a worsted-weaver, I live in St. Martin's parish, Norwich; I am a Freeman of Norwich, I voted at the last election for Sir Thomas Beevor.

Was any application made to you by any person to vote for Mr. Hobart?

Yes; about eight or nine days before the election, by Mr. Hobart, with Mr. Blake an attorney and Mr. Thomas Day. Mr. Hobart asked me if I had engaged my vote, I told him I had. He said, he supposed for Sir Thomas Beevor, I answered him, yes. Mr. Blake asked me, if Sir John Woodhouse had been a friend to me, and had got me a patent for an almsman's place. I told him, he had; and answered, that I had passed my word to vote for Sir Thomas Beevor, and that I would perform it. Mr. Blake said, he did not doubt Sir John Woodhouse would continue his friendship to me, if I would oblige him. Then Mr. Blake asked me, if I was under any obligation to vote for Sir Thomas Beevor. I told him, I was not, and that I liked Mr. Hobart very well as a gentleman, but would never serve the party. Mr. Thomas Day said, if I would oblige him, I should not want work; and Mr. Blake asked me to remain neuter, and said, I should not disoblige my master nor Sir John Woodhouse, and no favours should be wanting if I would oblige him so far as to remain neuter. I answered, I would not.

Had you any conversation with Mr. Hobart?

No more than I have said.——Withdrew.

PETER HAGAN, sworn.

I am a worsted-weaver, I live in St. Helen's parish, in Norwich; I have been a Freeman of Norwich 30 years.

Was you applied to by any person to vote for Mr. Hobart?

The Hon. Henry Hobart and Mr. Thomas Day came to my house; Mr. Hobart said to me, Sir John Woodhouse is a great friend of mine; I told Mr. Hobart, so he was of mine, and I returned him thanks for it. Mr. Hobart hoped I would oblige him with my vote. I told him, I could not, for I had promised my vote to Sir Thomas Beevor. Mr. Hobart then said to me, if you will stand neuter,

neuter, here is a friend of mine shall make it up as good to you as Mr. Beevor's party will. I told him, I asked no favour of Beevor's party, and did not intend it. Then Mr. Thomas Day took me in hand; he said, if I would oblige Mr. Hobart, he would put me down chairman, that I had no occasion to make any preparation for the chair, I might walk where I pleased; I might stay at home if I liked, I should be paid equally the same, and the price of the chair was a guinea; he offered this if I would stand neuter. This is all I have got to say.

*Cross-examined.* Whose interest was you in at the former election?

Mr. Wyndham's. This passed in my house. It was said, I had received five guineas from Mr. Hobart.

Was there any body present at this conversation?

Only I, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Day, and my wife; there was nobody else present when this conversation passed. Mr. Hobart spoke to me first. My master's name is Mr. George Maltby, I believe he is a Freeman. All I have spoke to passed in the same room in my house. Mr. Maltby never asked me for my vote. Sir Thomas Beevor asked me for my vote, and I granted it him. I was a chairman to Sir Thomas Beevor; I wore his dress; I had my guinea for the chair; I was put down as chairman for Sir Thomas after Mr. Hobart spoke to me; I was set down as an old chairman. I spoke to Mr. Dewing, the Chamberlain of Norwich, and he took me down as chairman direct. I did not tell Mr. Day that I was to be a chairman for Sir Thomas.

Did Mr. Day say all you have said he mentioned at once, in a breath?

They are as nearly word for word as I can guess. If he had whispered I should not have heard him; I was deaf at that time, but he spoke loud enough for me to hear.

Did he explain to you what he meant by making no preparation for the chair?

Day said to me the price of the chair was a guinea; I do not remember whether Mr. Day went out of the room first or not.

How long were they in your house altogether?

About five minutes.

Will you swear Mr. Hobart was by when Day said this?

Yes; Mr. Hobart pointed to Mr. Day, and said, that is a friend of mine, will do as much for you as Sir Thomas Beevor's party will, if you will stand neuter.

What



What time of the day was it?

About half after eleven o'clock in the forenoon, as near as I can recollect.——Withdrew.

Mr. Partridge states to the Committee, that a notice has been served upon Mr. Bygrave, Attorney to Mr. Hobart's Committee, to produce certain books and papers belonging to that Committee, before the Court; and that Mr. Bygrave, as Attorney to Mr. Hobart, objects to producing them.

“ Resolved,

“ That Mr. Bygrave be not examined to any matter “ touching the election since the 17th of July last.”

The Committee thereupon direct that Mr. Bygrave shall not be called upon to produce the papers in question.

EDWARD TUFFIL, sworn:

I am a worsted weaver; I live at Norwich, and voted at the last election.

Was you applied to by any person to vote for Mr. Hobart?

Yes; Mr. John Day of Lynd asked me to go along with him to supper; I asked him for a little money, and he told me I should have it; he did not owe me any money; he told me if I would come down the next day, and meet him at Mr. Kerrison's I should receive the money; I met him there, and he wrote a note, and desired me to set my name to it; he then gave me the note to carry down to Mr. Harvey to receive eighteen shillings; Mr. Harvey changed a guinea at the Bank, and gave me eighteen shillings out of it, it was to pay my landlord; I told him it was to pay my landlord, else I could not be of that party; before I received this note, I told Mr. Day I could not be of the party without having the money to pay my landlord; there was no money due to me from Mr. Day.

Did any conversation pass between you and Mr. Harvey at this time?

No otherwise than to do the party all the service I could.

*Cross-examined.* It was about a month before the election; I had promised Sir Thomas Beevor my vote at that time; I never asked him or any of his friends for money; I was too much tempted by the other party; Mr. Day came to my house; I work for Mr. Taylor, I believe he is a very warm friend of Sir Thomas's.

When

When Mr. Day came to you did you mention to him that you wanted some money to pay your landlord ?

I did not till I went to sup with him at the White Lion (a house of Mr. Hobart's friends) ; I went there several times ; I asked him for a guinea, the money was not paid then, he did not offer me any thing then ; I was never chairman, stavesman, or runner for Sir Thomas, nor employed in any way ; Mr. Day nor Mr. Harvey did not offer me to be any thing ; I went to Mr. Roach, and asked him to set me down as a runner for Mr. Hobart.

When did you apply to him to be a runner for Mr. Hobart ?

Two or three days after I had the note, he told me he would not set me down as a runner, but he would give me half a guinea a week if I would be staunch to the party ; I had promised Sir Thomas Beevor's party to vote for him ; when I went to Mr. Roach, Mr. Hobart's party did not use me well, they carried me away from my own home ; I never mentioned any thing of this to Mr. Taylor ; I don't know by whose desire I am sent up here ; I had no conversation with him about ; I received nothing for coming here but along with my subpoena.——Withdrew.

JOSHUA MIDDLETON, sworn.

I am a Freeman of Norwich, I live there, I am a worsted weaver.

Was you applied to at the time of the late contest to vote for Mr. Hobart ?

Yes ; by Mr. Thomas Day and Mr. Hobart, they were together.

What passed at the time ?

Mr. Hobart told me he came to solicit the favour of my vote ; I told him I had promised Sir Thomas Beevor, and meant to serve him ; he told me that promises were things not much looked at in cases of elections ; I told him I was very sorry for it, but I meant to stand to mine ; he told me if I could not be so much in his favour as the vote for him, he would be glad I would not vote against him ; and that then I should neither do him good nor harm ; I told him I should vote for Sir Thomas ; Mr. Day then made answer, and said, if I would oblige Mr. Hobart with my vote he would make me a chairman, or grant me two or three staves for the friends I might wish, and told me that he would be answerable to pay both me and them without troubling the

Committee,

Committee, I should have equally the same privileges if I would not vote at all, if I would stand neuter.

Did you make any promise?—No.

Was you set down as chairman?—No.

Mr. Hobart was present, and heard what passed.

I voted for Sir Thomas Beevor, this was the beginning of September; it was my own house, in St. Martin's parish, near Mr. Day's; I never knew Mr. Day, but by sight, till the election.

Was any body at your house when Mr. Hobart and Mr. Day came there?

There was a woman of the name of Sturcy; the conversation passed in the house between 11 and 12 o'clock; I am a worsted weaver; I work for Alderman Ives the present Mayor; I worked for him at that time; I had promised my vote to Mr. Oliver, a twister, for Sir Thomas Beevor; I was a chairman to Sir Thomas; I was a carrier, and wore the dress; I received a guinea for the two days of the election.

How many carriers were there with you?

I cannot recollect, I believe twenty-four at the chair, they relieved one another; there was the same number I believe on the other side; some are set down as chairmen, but do nothing; there are twenty-four at the Chair, and there are two reliefs.

Withdrew.

SAMUEL JOHNSON, sworn.

I am a worsted weaver; I am a Freeman of Norwich.

Was you applied to at the last election to vote for Mr. Hobart?

Yes, by Mr. Seaman and Mr. Lestley; this was in London. Mr. Lestley said he hoped I should give my vote for Mr. Hobart, and I told him I would. Mr. Seaman and Mr. Lestley both promised me five pounds if I would vote for Mr. Hobart.

Did you hear Lestley make the same promise to any other person?

Yes, I heard him make the same promise to others.

Did you know any of those persons?

No. It was at the Sun and Tobacco Roll in Fashion street. Some of them went to Swaffham with me.

Cross-examined. I know Mr. Howard the peruke maker, I was at Swaffham when Mr. Howard was there. The five pounds was to vote for Mr. Hobart, I was in London then,



then, this five pounds was for my loss of time. I mean the loss of time and vote, so as I would but vote for Mr. Hobart I was to have the five pounds. I live in London, I came here to serve Mr. Hobart for what I know. I had but three guineas in all.

How happened that?

Mr. Seaman told me it was as much as could be afforded.

Were your expences borne up and down?

Yes, my expences were borne, I lived scott-free, and had three guineas besides. Mr. Leftley and Mr. Seaman told me my wife had received five shillings in my absence, this was in part of the three guineas. When I came to Norwich they stopped the money.

What were the words Leftley and Seaman used?

They did not altogether ask me for my vote, they knew I was a Freeman; they said, if I would be so obliging as stand for Mr. Hobart I should have five pounds; that was the whole they said at that time. Mr. Seaman gave me a shilling a day to stay at home and work, I said I would agree to it.

Did you go to that place of your own accord?

Seaman came to me at my work, and invited me to the Sun and Tobacco Roll to get my dinner, he is a neighbour. I never was canvassed for Sir Thomas Beevor. I do not know Mr. Wilks.

Did you ever see any friend of Sir Thomas Beevor's in London?

No, nobody asked me for my vote for Sir Thomas.—Seaman paid me the three guineas at the Crown in St. Simon's, Norwich, all but 11. 6s. I received a guinea in London, and my wife has five shillings. Some of those who went with me to Swaffham, were in company when it was said to me, that I should have the money, and he said, no doubt the others will have the same; Seaman said this, and so did Leftley too. There were thirteen Freemen went to Swaffham, including Howard and myself; one Richard Widdows and Aldridge were there, I forgot the names of all the rest.

Were either Howard, Widdows or Aldridge present at the Sun and Tobacco Roll?

I believe Aldridge was, I do not believe Widdows was. I never did refuse to vote for Mr. Hobart.

Had you been asked for your vote before you was offered the five pounds.

No, they had no occasion, for I promised voluntarily. I took the shilling a day to keep at home and work, for

about five days, till I was tired of work; this was in the room of victuals and drink, over and above the five pounds. Withdrew.

JOHN TINLEY, sworn.

I am a Freeman of Norwich, I am a cordwainer, I live at Hackney.

Was you applied to at the last election to vote for Mr. Hobart?—Yes.

By whom?—Seaman was the man who sent too me.

Do you know Leftley?—Yes.

Had you any conversation with him about voting for Mr. Hobart?

Yes, he said to me, "Master Tinley if you chuse to vote for Mr. Hobart, I shall take it as a favour." When I thought the election was coming on, I said to Mr. Leftley, I should be very much obliged to him to spare me to go to Norwich. I had some friends at Norwich, and I wanted to go down to see them; he said, I will; I said I understand there ought to be a letter to carry to the Committee; and he said you shall have one, and he gave me one. When he gave me the letter, I said, I am but a poor man, money is short with me, I should be glad you would lend me a guinea; and he said, if you will ask the landlady of the house, I dare say you may have such a thing, accordingly I went to the landlady and she lent me a guinea, and that guinea was stopped.

Did you ever meet Leftley at the Sun and Tobacco Roll in Fashion-street, or the Red Hart in Shoe-lane?

I saw him at the Red Hart in Shoe-lane, and it was there I had the guinea; I did not see any other Freeman of Norwich there; I cannot say I ever heard any conversation between him and any Voters going to Norwich; I have heard him say at the Sun and Tobacco Roll in Fashion-street, "Boys be in good spirits, five guineas will do you no hurt by and by at the election."

When you went down to Norwich was you employed as a runner?

Yes; I received fifteen shillings a week; the Gentlemen of the Committee asked me what I asked; and I said, I am a stranger, and they gave me a note to a public-house, where I was well entertained; I received the fifteen shillings for four weeks running.

Did you receive any money as a chairman?

Yes; half a guinea as a chairman; I was put down as a chairman, but Mr. Hamp said you have had plenty of money, I think

I think you may be excused being paid as a chairman; I was set down as a runner and chairman; I did nothing as a runner, they never asked me to do any thing; the whole sum I received was about six pounds; I cannot tell how much I spent in going and coming; I was as careful as I could, I do not think I spent three pounds.

*Cross-examined.* How do you make out 6l.

I had three guineas for my vote, one of the guineas was stopped by Seaman for the guinea I borrowed in Shoe-lane; I had 15s. a week for a month, and half a guinea I had given me to begin house-keeping at Norwich, that half guinea was given me by Mr. Hamp, besides the half guinea for being chairman. I was ready to go as a runner if they had asked me. I went down four weeks before the election; the coach was paid up and down; my expences were paid besides.

Were the men who were to have 5l. to pay their expences up and down?—I do not know.

What had you for your loss of time?

I had three guineas for my loss of time, or my vote. I do not know what Sir Thomas Beevor's men had, my vote was never canvassed for him. I voted for Mr. Hobart at the general election, I do not know what the London Voters had at that time; I had three guineas at that time, I do not know what Mr. Wyndham's people had. Seaman paid me the two guineas at Norwich. I left work to go to serve Mr. Hobart, I am a master cordwainer, I left my shop and every thing to go to Norwich; I received the whole of the money to vote for Mr. Hobart. When I went to Norwich I thought the election was coming on immediately; I received the 15s. a week from Mr. Hamp; I lived scot-free all the time I was at Norwich.—Withdrew.

The following papers, produced by Mr. Garrow, and read in evidence.

A letter from Mr. Hobart to Mr. Samuel Bane, Tewkesbury Church, White Chapel High-street, London, dated Norwich, July 21st, 1786.

A letter from Mr. Bygrave to Mr. William Howard, Tea-warehouse, Fenchurch-street, London, with a postscript of Mr. Hobart's, dated July 28th, 1786.



A petition of John Middleton, serjeant of the Norfolk militia, addressed to the Honourable Sir John Woodhouse, Bart. and signed by several persons, recommending the petition; and also a note annexed to it, signed by Thomas Day.

The bankers election account of the Honourable Henry Hobart.

The papers and books which follows, were taken out of the box produced by Mr. Goodwin.

List of the public houses opened in Norwich in the interest of Mr. Hobart.

A book intituled, "Rowe-Roe Buck, St. Gregory's."

A book containing, "Checks at the White Swan."

A book intituled, "Public Houses."

Gazette dated 8th of August, 1786.

Gazette dated 26th August, 1786.—Adjourned.

17 NO 58

# NORWICH ELECTION.

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M I N U T E S

OF THE

E V I D E N C E

O F

Mr. HOBART'S WITNESSES.

PART II.

B

NORWICH ELECTION.

MINUTES



EVIDENCE

MR. HOBART'S WITNESSES.

B

PART II.



*Veneris, 2<sup>o</sup> die Martii, 1787.*

**COMMITTEE on NORWICH ELECTION.**

Sir GEORGE YONGE, Bart. in the Chair.

Petitioners proceed.

Mr. Dallas states to the Committee, that, being extremely unwell, he begs leave to reserve himself till the reply.

Minutes of the Evidence on the Part of the Hoff.  
HENRY HOBART.

Mr. Douglas proceeds to open the case of the Sitting Member.

To prove the circumstances of what passed at London relative to the opening of houses there on the part of Sir Thomas Beevor.

MARK WILKS sworn.

I live at St. Clement's, Norwich—I am a merchant—I am a freeman of Norwich—I voted for Sir Thomas Beevor.

Was you a friend to Sir Thomas Beevor in the course of the canvas previous to the election?

I don't know what you mean by *friend*—I don't understand the question—I never considered myself as a friend to Sir Thomas Beevor—I acted in the election business—I considered my own conduct as serving myself.

Did you assist Sir Thomas Beevor in the course of the election?

I did all that I thought warrantable to obtain him a seat in Parliament.

Did you go to London at any time with a view to assist Sir Thomas Beevor?—Never solely.

When you found yourself in London, did you employ any part of your time in assisting Sir Thomas Beavor?

I did all that I could warrantably, to obtain him a seat, with the freemen in London.

Will you fix the time when you first did all you could with the freemen in London to assist Sir Thomas Beavor?

I can't help the Committee to form an idea of the time—I can't recollect the day—I visited Lord Suffield the very day after he kissed his Majesty's hand—In July I suppose—I keep a diary of every day's transactions, but I have it not with me—I shall have it to-morrow.

Did you on that day endeavour to see any freemen in London?—I did.

How many did you see?—I don't know if I saw one.

When did you find any freemen to whom you applied in London?

I don't know—I was then on business to Lord Suffield—I found him doing every thing for Mr. Hobart.

Question repeated.

I don't know—I went immediately home to Norwich.

Is the Committee to understand, that in that visit to London you saw no freemen?

I did not as I recollect.

—When did you go to London next?

That I don't recollect.

Upon your oath, did you not return to London in the month of August?

I was in London in August—I can't recollect when I returned—I then saw freemen at many places, some at their own houses, others at my lodgings—others at the Tewksbury church, a public-house at Whitechapel—at the Fountain in Clare-street, Clare Market—at Mr. Clark's, Little Newport-street, Newport Market.

No other places besides those?—Samuel Banes keeps the Tewksbury church.

How many freemen might you see in those different houses?—That I don't know.

How often did you go to those houses?

I went to one or other of them twice a week, when I was in town.

How

How long did you stay in town?

That time, I stayed till the eve of the nomination-day.—I don't recollect how long I was in town—I suppose I might be in town three weeks—I don't think I was in town a month. Sometimes I visited all of them twice a week.

How were the freemen entertained there?

On two nights in the week, with eighteen pence to eat and drink, a man.

Were they opened on any other nights but two in the week?

No—Not that I understood—only on the election week—they were opened every day in that week.

Did you canvas the freemen who came to those houses for Sir Thomas Beevor?

The freemen were brought to me by runners—Gurling was the chief man—he was not employed by me to bring the freemen—he was employed by Mr. Gynne, the son of the gaoler of Norwich, now in America—Brooks and his son were runners—there were others, but I don't recollect their names.

When were those freemen first brought to you?

At different times; I don't recollect when I saw the first.

How many freemen in the whole might be brought to you at different times?

I don't know—I suppose I saw ninety, or more, in the whole.

Did you make any agreement with the freemen about their going down to Norwich?—None.

Was you present when any agreement was made by any other person with the freemen?

No—I have agreed that those should go down in post-chaises, that could not go other ways.

In what way then were the others to go down that could not go in post-chaises?—In stage-coaches.

At whose expence were the chaises furnished?

I never learnt.

Do you say, upon your oath, that you are ignorant at whose expence those chaises were furnished?

Yes—at the mouth of a cannon I'd say it.

Were the voters to receive any thing for their loss of time in going down to Norwich?—They were.

What



What sum?

According to the ideas that were formed of the value of their time.

Was that agreed upon before the voters left London?

With some.

Was you present when any such agreement was made?

I made it.

With how many freemen did you agree?

I don't recollect—I did not agree with fifty, nor five, that I can recollect.

Was you present when any body else agreed with freemen?—I don't recollect such a circumstance.

Did you go down to Norwich with any freemen from London?

Yes, I think about fourteen, as many as the coach would carry, a coach-load—I wanted to go to vote, and I went with them.

Did you go by accident in that coach?

I must go some way, and I chose to go in that coach—They were all men that I had seen at some one of the houses in London—I got there on the election-day, on the Friday—I went to my own house at Norwich—We all drove in the coach up to the booth, and voted in a promiscuous manner.

Did you go to any public-house on that day after you had voted?

Yes—to the White Lion in White Lion Lane.

Was that house opened for the friends of Sir Thomas Beevor?

I don't know that.

Was there company in the house when you went into it?—Yes—it was not full of company.

Was the name of Beevor written on a board over any part of that house?

I did not see such a name, or any thing else.

Was it opened in the interest of Mr. Hobart?

I don't know.

Had you any reason for preferring that house?

I had reason; its nearness to the booth—I neither eat nor drank any thing there, that I recollect—I dined at home, and went and voted afterwards. I know George Freeman—he was not one of the party that came down with me—I believe I did not see him on the election-day.

Did

Did you give any directions to Freeman with whom he should vote?

No directions; I might give him advice.

What advice did you give him?

The same that I gave to other London voters; that they should all keep in a body, and vote together.

I am informed he resides in Norwich—What reason had you then for advising him to vote with the London voters?—Because I considered him as a London voter.

Did you pay him any money after the election?

I did, 3l. 3s.—he was paid as a London voter, but not altogether—When I found him in London, I supposed he resided in London—Before I paid him, I found he resided in Norwich—I therefore did not allow him his expences down. I paid him at my house, I think; I can't recollect.

Was it, or was it not, at the Angel?

I don't know.

Did you pay any other person except Freeman?

I paid numbers—all the London voters who accepted payment, and some from the country—Plymouth—Nottingham, &c.

What did the London voters receive from you?

I don't know.

How much did you pay them a-piece?

I don't know—some more, and some less, according to the value of their time.

What was the most you paid to any London voters?

I don't recollect—Gentlemen who went in chaises had four guineas a man—I think it was so—I paid them according to the value of their time in my esteem—some had more, and some less—some had only 2l.—some had three guineas.

Were the three guineas paid exclusive of their expences?—No.

You have stated, that Freeman had three guineas, although you knew he did not live in London; for what were they given to him?

I paid him as a London voter—I understood him to be so—some of the London voters had three guineas, and their expences down—I asked Freeman, when he came for payment, if he intended to reside in Norwich or London—he told me in Norwich—I then would not allow him his expences down.

Did any London voters receive more than three guineas, besides their expences?

I had nothing to do with the travelling expences. What I paid the voters was exclusive of their expences to Norwich—they bore their own back—some had four guineas, and some two guineas, according to the value of their time, and the manner of their conveyance—I mean to state, that no London voter received four guineas, exclusive of his expences down.

Did you pay all the London voters at your own house, or any at a public house?

I don't think I paid all at my own house.

Can you name the public house at which you might pay some of the London voters?

I am not positive—but I paid them where I met with them promiscuously.

Did you pay any at the Angel?—I think I did.

How much in the whole did you pay the London and out-voters?—I don't know.

Were any of the voters who came from a distance in the country paid any thing for their loss of time?

Yes—I don't know in what proportion—I paid two from the country at a distance—I don't know what sum, but I was guided by the views I then had of the distance and the loss of their time.

Did you pay the London and country voters out of your own money?

No—Mr. Buckle furnished me with money for that purpose—Mr. Buckle is an ironmonger in Norwich Market—he is no banker, that I know of.

Did you receive the money from Mr. Buckle himself?

Most of it—it was in specie—I received it at Mr. Buckle's house.

How much of the money was not received in specie?

That is a question I can't answer now—I had drafts upon a banker in Lombard-street, from Buckle—it is Walpole and Company—There were two or three drafts—I think 100*l.* and 150*l.*—I don't recollect exactly how much the other was for.

Did you convert these drafts into cash at Norwich?

No—they were paid to my order—I received the money at Walpole's Bank—I received this money before the voters came down from London.

The



Did you receive any other money of Buckle at any other time during the canvas, except what you have now mentioned?

The money I received in specie was not at the same time that I received the drafts at Walpole's Bank.

At what time did you receive the money in specie?

After the election.

Did you pay the London voters at Norwich out of the money you received after the election?—I did.

State what became of the 250*l.* you received at Walpole's Bank, previous to the election?

A deal of it remained in my hands till after the election—I don't know how much.

Did you pay any bills in London on account of the election?

I did—I paid the bills of Banes, Clark, and Wilson—the three publicans—I cannot tell the amount within 20*l.*—I don't recollect ever hearing the names of Kubell, Winter, or Vincent—I do recollect Winter a taylor—he is a London voter—he voted for Sir Thomas Beevor.

What did you pay him for coming to Norwich?

I think three guineas, or three guineas and an half.

Will you swear it was not more, and much more?

I think I dare swear it—I received from Mr. Buckle, or his order, 1000*l.* in all, including the drafts.

Why did you apply to Mr. Buckle an ironmonger for cash to that amount?

Because Mr. Buckle advised me to take this part upon me—I don't know whether he is a freeman of Norwich—I think he must be.

Was he a friend of Sir Thomas Beevor's at this election?

I suppose that it was Mr. Buckle's wish that Sir Thomas should be returned to Parliament.

Did you ever attend any meetings of Sir Thomas Beevor's friends in Norwich?—No doubt.

At what place?

At several places—At the Angel in the Market—I have met Sir Thomas Beevor at the Angel occasionally—I don't know how frequent I have met him there during the canvas—I was not much in Norwich during the canvas—I have met John Barnard a manufacturer—William Barnard—Mr. Buckle—Alderman Norgate—Mr. Hudson the banker—Mr. Dewing the Chamberlain,

and many others, friends of Sir Thomas Beevor, at the Angel.

In what way were these gentlemen employed when they met at the Angel? were they a committee?

I don't know—I have met a party at Tuck's Coffee-house—I have met Sir Thomas Beevor there.

Have you ever met any of Sir Thomas Beevor's friends there?

Yes—I have—I think I have seen Mr. Buckle there—I think I have asked votes for Sir Thomas Beevor.

Do you know of any houses being opened in St. Clement's parish in the interest of Sir Thomas Beevor?

I believe there was not one.

Have you ever been at any house in any other parish than your own, which was opened for the friends of Sir Thomas Beevor?

Yes—I scarce know the names of any houses at Norwich—I have been in many—they were opened, as I understood, two nights in the week—I have seen Sir Thomas Beevor at some of these houses—I suppose within a month or five weeks of the election.

When you attended at the Angel, or Tuck's Coffee-house, when Mr. Buckle was present, was any mention made respecting money to be deposited in Mr. Buckle's hands?—Never.

What reason had you then to apply to Mr. Buckle for money?—From Mr. Buckle's own instructions.

Had you seen Mr. Buckle at any of these meetings before you received instructions from him, to apply to him for money?—I don't recollect.

Will you state the time when you first received instructions from him?

Somewhat after the time I left Lord Suffield—when I was in London on that journey, I left three guineas at two public houses.

Withdrew.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

*Sabbati,*

*Sabbati, 3<sup>o</sup> die Martii, 1787.*

Sitting Member proceeds.

COURT cleared.

Committee deliberate.

Counsel called in, and directed to proceed.

MARK WILKS sworn.

I do now recollect the name of Vincent. (The last question of yesterday repeated).

I stated to Mr. Buckle, when I came to Norwich, that I had been at some expence; he consequently gave me thirty guineas: this was the first conversation about money, and this was the occasion of it.

In what way of life is Vincent whom you have named?

I don't know; I never saw him but once in my life.—I believe he was a London voter.

Did he receive any money from you as a London voter?—Not a farthing.

Was he offered any money for coming down to Norwich by you?—Not a farthing.

Was he never canvassed by you?

No—but I wish to explain myself.—I saw him at a friend's house in London. He came there while I was there; and the only conversation that I recollect was upon the head of political sentiments.

Do you know one Tunny, of Nottingham?

I recollect the name.

Did you pay him any money as an out-voter?

I did; I can't recollect how much: I can't state what. I was informed he had imposed upon me after I had paid him.—I was guided by another Nottingham voter, who was of the other party.

How much had the other?

I don't know. What he told me he had, I gave Tunny.

Will you swear that that voter did not receive ten guineas?—I will swear he did not. I apprehend he had five guineas, if not more.—I don't think he had seven. He had this for expences from Nottingham to London, from London to Norwich, and back again to Nottingham the nearest way.



When did you receive the thirty guineas of Buckle ?  
Immediately after I came from London. That thirty guineas is part of 1000*l*. I gave an account of yesterday.

Was it in the month of August ?

I should think it was the latter end of July.

In what way had you expended the sum of thirty guineas which you received again of Mr. Buckle ?

I had not expended it when I received it.—I think I had expended only three guineas.

What induced you to apply to Mr. Buckle for the thirty guineas ?—I did not apply to him.

On what account did you inform Mr. Buckle that you had expended three guineas ?

It was in a friendly conversation.

Did you pay any money for the carriages which brought the London voters down to Norwich ?

I did—I don't know how much.

Have you got your diary ?

I have it. It will not inform what cash I paid.

Was the expence of the coaches from London paid out of the 250*l*. which you received from Walpole's bank ?

I did not say I paid for any coaches. The expence of the post-chaises was paid out of that money.

How much was expended for carriages of all descriptions ?—I don't know.

Did you carry in an account of the expenditure of the 1000*l*. to any one ?

I have not—I have not settled with any one—it is unsettled to this hour.

Have you applied to Mr. Buckle, to settle the account with him ?

I have not made out my account, nor expended the money. I could swear, that, according to my idea, much more remains than 50*l*. The balance is something about 100*l*.

Was the money expended your proper money ?—No.

#### CROSS EXAMINED.

Do you know of any proposal made to Sir Thomas Breyor to open houses for the entertainment of the freemen of Norwich ?

I do—

I do—by myself, one Cook, and others.—In that conversation, I told Sir Thomas, that the freemen were very desirous of having a little liquor that night, which was the first Saturday after Sir Thomas stood forth as a candidate, and that orders had been written for a few public houses to be opened. Sir Thomas took the orders in his hand as they lay on the table, and declared they should not go out. I told Sir Thomas immediately, that if he refused beer to the freemen, he might as well go back to Hethel, and give himself no more trouble about the election. He told me, that so he would then (and with an oath); for he would rather be without the seat, than obtain it by such unlawful means. I understood he left Norwich, and went immediately to Hethel:—those orders did not go out then, nor ever that I know of.

When you went to London, did you go by the desire of Sir Thomas Beevor?—No.

Was you authorized by Sir Thomas Beevor to give any money to freemen of London?

Just the contrary. Sir Thomas told me, that, if he knew a man give money to procure him a vote, he would not walk the streets with such a man. That conversation passed in my house at Norwich before I went to London, at the time before alluded to.

How did the houses come to be opened at Norwich for Sir Thomas Beevor?

From my own knowledge I can say nothing.

Was Sir Thomas Beevor in London during the time you was there?

He was not in London during any part of that time.—I have seen Sir Thomas Beevor at the public-houses in Norwich opened in his interest. I never had any conversation with Sir Thomas Beevor about money; neither Mr. Buckle's money, nor any other.

#### COURT.

What were the orders you have mentioned?

The manner is this,—for so many men to have one shilling a night for two nights in the week. I never understood they were to be signed by any body.—The expences down to Norwich I had nothing to do with, except a few men who chose to go down a week or a fortnight prior to the election; and as we had no coaches then

then engaged, I used to give to the men that went down fifteen shillings to carry themselves down, and to go down how they chose.—As Freeman, I found, imposed upon me, I would not give him the fifteen shillings. I did not deduct it out of the three guineas ;—some went down and bore their own expences, and they had their expences after the election. I gave the fifteen shillings to Freeman after the election. I asked him the question whether he intended to go to London or not ; and he said, No, I knew he was not a London voter when I gave him the three guineas. I don't know who wrote the orders. I apprehend they were wrote in that room, and they lay upon the table. It was at the Angel ; there were many people in the room.

Did you understand the orders had been prepared by any gentleman in the room ?—I did.

Did you understand that any had been issued before, besides those you have spoke about ?

I am clear none had. I don't recollect how many had been made out. I think nine or ten.

As you paid the voters according to your idea of the value of their loss of time, did you pay those voters who went to Norwich a week or fortnight before the election, for their loss of time ?

I did not ; they went that time for their own gratification.—I think I can recollect the names of some who were present in the room.—I think, Mr. Hudson the Banker was present ; and, I apprehend, Mr. Buckle and Mr. Oliver, Mr. Cook, Mr. Hubbard, and many others that I don't recollect.

How came one or more of the voters from Nottingham to go round by London ?—I don't know. I don't think there was a committee of Sir Thomas Beevor. I know the room at the Angel was open to every body who came. I never spoke to Sir Thomas before the canvas. I was no friend nor acquaintance to Sir Thomas Beevor before that time.

In what way did you estimate the loss of time after the election ?

According to their own calculation, I weighed all the circumstances, and adopted my pay to what was suitable to the receiver. There were some went down in post-chaises, and paid their own expences down—there and back—they had more than four guineas. The utmost that



that was allowed in that case was six guineas; all expenses included.

Did you see the gentlemen you have named at the Coffee-house?

I have, and numbers more.

Did you see any list of their names at either house in any part of the room?

I recollect no such circumstance.

Can you state where those voters, who went down a week before the election, were entertained at Norwich?

I don't know; I was then in London. I think I have seen the name of Beevor over the door at Norwich, where I believe it remains now.

Do you know whether Sir Thomas Beevor took any methods to prevent such house being opened in his name?

I know he strove to prevent the whole in the gross. I allude to the former conversation.

Withdrew.

#### JOHN BUCKLE sworn.

I am a freeman of Norwich. My business is that of an ironmonger. I was in the interest of Sir Thomas Beevor at the last election.

Did you attend any meetings of the friends of Sir Thomas Beevor at the Angel, or Tuck's Coffee-house? —I did—I can't speak as to the time when they were held; it was before the nomination; after the nomination there was a committee; this was soon after the time when Lord Suffield was made a peer.

In what way did the friends of Sir Thomas Beevor conduct themselves at those places?

Mr. James Crowe, Mr. Wm. Taylor, Mr. John Barnard, Mr. Wm. Barnard, Mr. James Hudson, Mr. John Tuthill, and many other Gentlemen, met at both these places. I was of the party; it was open to all the friends of Sir Thomas Beevor; these gentlemen met to conduct the election; Mr. Morphew was their clerk; he is an attorney. I know Leake, he was an assistant to Morphew; I never saw Sir Thomas Beevor at the committee-room, that I recollect. Sir Thomas Beevor came backwards and forwards; I apprehend that Sir Thomas knew of course for what purpose they met.

Were

Were any orders given by those gentlemen for opening houses in Sir Thomas's interest?

On the Saturday following, after Sir Thomas Beevor was brought forward, I recollect, it was said, that, unless houses were opened, he might go home again, he would have no chance of the election; that there were orders made out that night for opening houses; Sir Thomas Beevor came into the room; he was informed what they were about; and, being told there were orders made out for opening houses, he went up to Mr. Morphew, the attorney, and desired to see them. Mr. Morphew produced the orders. Sir Thomas took them into his hand, and asked Morphew, "Is here all the orders;" and Mr. Morphew said, "Yes;" Sir Thomas replied, "I'll put them in my pocket; I will not suffer one to be issued out." He did put them in his pocket; no orders were issued out afterwards, only verbal ones.

Were verbal orders given in every week from that time till the time of the Election?

I had no knowledge how that business was conducted; that was Mr. Morphew's business. Houses were opened in Sir Thomas Beevor's interest.

Did you ever go to any houses opened in Sir Thomas Beevor's interest?

I have—Sir Thomas Beevor has visited the men there; I have seen him at the houses come to visit the voters; I have seen Sir Thomas at one or two clubs in our ward—I have seen him at the Fountain in St. Peter's parish.

What was your employment by the Committee?

I only went there as a friend to Sir Thomas Beevor, to serve him in the contest.

When the first meeting was held, was any thing mentioned about money to defray the expences of the election?—Not that I know of.

Was any money deposited in your hands for the purposes of the election?

Yes—not previous to the election—I have my books here, which will speak for me.

Had you any authority from Sir Thomas Beevor, or the committee, to furnish money for the purposes of the election?

I never had a word with Sir Thomas Beevor about money matters—the gentlemen of the committee, Mr.

Taylor in particular, spoke to me in these words; "If you'll be so good as to receive and pay, we shall be much obliged to you;" this was in my counting-room before the general meeting—I can't speak to the day.

Produces two books;

Containing all the accounts of the election, and also an extract of that account.

This extract is a true copy of the books, as far as relates to the election account.

The amount of the money was 3,269l. 7s. 6d. and the money received 2,820l.

The account is called "Sir Thomas Beevor's election account."

I examined that account last night; it contains the whole amount of money paid and received by me.

Did you receive any money on the election account previous to the 26th of September?

That is the first sum of money I received.

Did you then, upon your own credit, or upon the credit of any other person, advance the money which was advanced before the 26th of September?

From the request of Mr. Taylor; he said, "Will you open an account;" and I said, "Yes"—This was done confidentially by myself—I relied on Mr. Taylor seeing me paid—the credit was given on account of Sir Thomas Beevor's election.

Is the Committee to understand that credit was given to other people besides Mr. Taylor?

I opened the account with Mr. Taylor on account of the election—I never did any business with him before.

Do you know of any money being lodged in the hands of any person before the 26th of September?

No.

Who was banker to the Committee besides you?

Nobody.

Do you mean to swear that you was the only person concerned in money transactions on the part of the Committee?—Yes—I do.

Do you know of any sums of money subscribed by the Committee?

PART II.

D

Yes—



Yes—these sums are in this account—that account contains every transaction.

In what way did you furnish the money from time to time?

By different ways—by specie—by draft, and by letters of credit—there was only one draft drawn, which I now have—it was drawn on Walpole's house—I don't recollect any meetings of the Committee respecting these money matters.

Do you know any thing of any money now due on account of the election?—That I can't speak to.

#### CROSS EXAMINED.

Who was responsible to you for the 3000 and odd pounds you have paid?

I should think Sir Thomas Beevor and the Committee.—If no part of that money had been paid back to me, I should have called on Mr. Taylor.

Have you then any reason whatever, from any thing that ever passed between Sir Thomas Beevor and you, to think him responsible for that advance?

No—I should certainly call on Mr. Taylor.

Did Sir Thomas Beevor ever see that account?

I can swear that Sir Thomas Beevor never saw the account, neither in nor out of my books.

At any time during the expenditure of the money, had you any conversation with Sir Thomas Beevor about it?—Never about money matters.

Have you any reason whatever to think that until this day Sir Thomas Beevor ever knew beyond his own 1500l. who were the subscribers to the expence of this election, or in what proportion?—No—certainly.

Did Sir Thomas Beevor in any way direct or interfere in the issuing of any part of that 3200 and odd pounds?—No.

Do you know of any application to Sir Thomas Beevor, or conversation of his, respecting opening houses?

None but what I mentioned.

Was not Sir Thomas Beevor always averse to the opening of houses?—Yes.

Did he not constantly express his disapprobation of it? Frequently.

By whom were they opened then?

That I don't know.

By whomsoever they were opened, have you any reason for concluding that Sir Thomas Beevor ever sanctioned or approved it?

I am sure to the contrary.

Do you know of Sir Thomas Beevor's remonstrating against it?

At the before-mentioned time, he declared, he would go out of town, and not return.

Did you pay any money to voters?—No.

Did you receive any authority to pay any?—None.

Had you ever any application made to you by any of the voters for money?

Yes—One Robert Parminter, of St. Julian, a freeman, called upon me—he applied to me for 15s. due to him upon a late contest, and he said, if I would not pay it, he would vote against Sir Thomas Beevor—I told him “We don't obtain votes by such means, go and vote against us”—Sir Thomas Beevor's attorney, Mr. Russell, brought me three 500l. notes, and desired me to set them down in his name.

Did you pay the bills for those public houses mentioned in the article of the 12th of September in your account?

That was paid by me at Morpew's request—I think it was at the Angel—we paid none any where else—it was paid for the week preceding the date of that article.—Sir Thomas Beevor only came to the public houses to visit the freemen—I never saw Sir Thomas Beevor at any house where the name of Beevor was put up—the names were not up till the day of the election—Mr. Taylor called on me; and by his request I opened an account, and he said he would take care I should not be a sufferer.

Did you look upon it then as a private account of Mr. Taylor's, opened for the election?—Yes.

Then how came you not to open it as Mr. Taylor's account?

Mr. Taylor requested me to take upon myself the trouble of receiving and paying sums in the lump—not to have the trouble of being agent for the Committee—when Mr. Morpew came for any, he used to leave me a memorandum—I have put initials of J. M. in

the account, to any article of that kind—I conceived it as a public account, at a private request of Mr. Taylor.

Upon what public account then did you consider it to be opened?

For the election of Sir Thomas Beevor—I conversed a great deal with the gentlemen of the Committee—I have often heard them say, it was a resolution of the Committee, not to give money to the resident voters, to procure their votes, and I conceive it was strictly adhered to—The articles in my account were entered at the times stated in the account—I know the Committee expressed the same disapprobation with regard to treating as to money matters—I don't know who paid the publicans bills—I paid some publicans bills myself—Mr. Morphew sent me a list, and I went down to pay them.—I do know there was a deputation from the Committee of Sir Thomas Beevor, to the honourable Mr. Hobart's Committee, requesting a conference, and a verbal answer was given—it was to confer about not opening houses—the answer was, “That they should not confer with Sir Thomas Beevor's Committee”—no reason was assigned—the Committee, I believe, were very desirous not to open houses; but, the adverse party not submitting to it, they were under the necessity of doing it.

Withdrew.

*(To disprove the assertions of former witnesses.)*

JOHN ROACH sworn.

I am a freeman of Norwich.

Withdrew.

Mr. Partridge states, that he proposes to examine Mr. Roach, to prove he was not an agent to Mr. Hobart at the election.

Mr. Piggott objects to his being examined, as he has been present during the whole course of the evidence, and his name delivered in the list of agents given by the other side.

Mr. Partridge heard in answer.

Court cleared.

Committee deliberate.

Determined,



Determined, That Mr. Roach, having been permitted to remain in the room as an assistant in the cause before the Committee, be now examined.

Counsel called in, and acquainted therewith.

JOHN ROACH again.

I am a voter at Norwich, I am a yarn-factor there.

Was you in the interest of Mr. Hobart at the last election?—I was.

Was you requested by any person to be in the interest of Mr. Hobart?

I was not—I was from home at the time of the vacancy at Norwich, or the day after; and hearing that Sir Thomas Beevor had declared himself a candidate, that news precipitated my return.

At what time was it that you did so return to Norwich?

On the evening of the Wednesday next after Sir Thomas being declared a candidate.

Was you a friend to Mr. Mr. Hobart on the former election?—I was.

Did you offer your vote and interest to Mr. Hobart, or was you applied to by any person before you made that offer?—I was applied to by no one.

Was it on your own accord that you espoused the interest of Mr. Hobart?—It was.

Was you employed by Mr. Hobart?—I was not.

Was you employed by any gentlemen who acted as friends of Mr. Hobart?—I was not.

Was you a member of the Committee which met occasionally at the King's Head?—Not that I know of.

Did you consider yourself as a member of that Committee?—I did not.

Was you employed by that Committee to act for them or Mr. Hobart?

I acted perfectly independent both of the Committee and Mr. Hobart.

Did you canvass for Mr. Hobart?—I did.

Did you communicate to the Committee the result of that canvass, from time to time?

When I have been in the room of the King's Head, I have

I have talked of it as I did in other places, and in no other way.

Did you communicate any lists, in writing, of voters who had promised you, to the Committee?

None that I remember.

Did you ever canvass with Mr. Hobart?

I did in the parish where I lived.

How long before the election was that canvass?

I really don't recollect.

Had you any authority to expend money on account of the Committee?—None.

Any authority of that sort from Mr. Hobart?

None.

Did you expend any money in the course of the election?—I did.

To what amount?—I can't precisely tell.

Did you take any journeys from Norwich?

Several.

At whose expence were those journeys taken?

At my own.

Are you repaid that expence?—No.

Have you applied to any person to repay you that expence?—Never.

Did you ever pay any of the staves-men who were employed on the part of Mr. Hobart?

I paid certain staves-men employed by myself, who came to my house on the morning of the election.

Were they voters or not?—Not one.

How many staves-men did you pay?

Not more than 20, nor fewer than 15.

What had they a-piece?—Five shillings.

Where they engaged before the election-day, or on that morning?—Before.

How long?—Some two or three days.

Where they paid out of your own pocket?

They were.

Are you repaid for that?—I am not.

Did you pay any chairmen that were employed for Mr. Hobart on the election-day?—None.

Any runners?—did you employ any, or have any in pay?—I employed several.

How many?—Five or six.

How long were they employed before the election?

I can't

I can't say exactly ; it might be four, five, or six weeks.

At how much a week ?

They were not all equally useful, and of course not all equally paid.

What did you pay to different runners ?

Some five shillings, and some ten shillings a week.

Do you know James Middleton ?

Yes—many years.

Was he employed by you as a runner previous to the last election ?—He was.

At how much a week ?

He received in the whole about thirty shillings—I don't recollect how long he was employed—I believe it to have been about a month.

Do you remember what passed when Middleton first came into your employ ?

Only that he desired to be employed.

In what capacity ?—As one to go of messages.

Did he go of messages ?—He did—constantly.

Was any thing mentioned about his vote ?—State all that passed when he first came ?

He said, many people had been employed by the Committee as runners ; and, as I had been an old friend to him, he wished I would employ him if I wanted any body in that way myself.

Did he mention nothing else ?

Not that I recollect.

Did you mention any thing else ?

Not that I recollect.

Did you require any thing from him ?

Never—that not being necessary, as he had, long before that, being very anxious to make himself serviceable.

Did he at this time promise to vote for Mr. Hobart ?

I don't remember Mr. Hobart's name being mentioned.

Did he promise his vote at this time without Mr. Hobart's name being mentioned ?

I recollect nothing about his vote—the fellow had always appeared among our friends at the public houses.

How long before this had you seen Middleton at the public houses ?—Several different times.

Do



Do you know a Mr. Kerrison, who has a farm in the neighbourhood of Norwich?—Perfectly well.

Did you ever send Middleton to that farm?

I did, in company with his father.

Withdrew.

Adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

*Luna, 5<sup>o</sup> die Martii, 1787.*

**Committee on Norwich Election.**

**Sir George Yonge in the Chair.**

**Sitting Member proceeds.**

**JOHN ROACH sworn.**

It was at Middleton's own request I sent him to Mr. Kerrison's.

When he requested you to send him, did he give any reason for that request?—He did.

Mention it?

He and his father coming to my house, met me in the street, in order to beg of me.

Repeat the expressions made use of?

The younger one said, "Sir, we are now coming to your house, to beg of you to remove us to some place of safety;" at the same time lifting up a handkerchief which was tied over his eyes, and shewing me two or three wounds in his face, and in particular his eye very much bruised and cut—he said, that, in coming home peaceably last night, he had been abused and treated in that manner by the friends of Sir Thomas Beevor, and desired to be removed—he was in consequence sent to Mr. Kerrison's, with his father.

Do you know one Richard Brooks?—I do.

Do you remember his coming to your house during the election?—I do.

Was any body with him at any time that he came?

He came with one Daniel Taylor, and desired to speak to me on the subject of the election—I went with him, upon that, into my warehouse—Taylor did not go with us—he then told me, that he called Taylor to come to my house—he then said, he was very unwilling to vote against me, as he then termed it—having always voted together, notwithstanding his father and brother were determined to vote for Sir Thomas Beevor—he himself did not like it—I told him, his discourse was idle, for that his voting for Mr. Hobart was absolutely impossible, and that he knew it although he came there—himself, father, brother, and brother's wife, were

all at that time actually supported with work by Messrs. Worth and Carter, a very good friend of Sir Thomas Beevor's, and a very particular one of my own in the way of my profession (I mean Mr. Worth)—for which reason I would not interfere, and I thought, if he did not vote as he had all along promised, he would be a rascal—he then made expressions of poverty, and said his wife was ill, and begged of me to lend him some money—I told him, I would not—I would give him some—I did so—I gave him half a guinea, and desired him, at the same time, to act as he ought to do—in doing which, he would vote for Sir Thomas Beevor—I said this to Brooks, and then I left him—He did vote for Sir Thomas Beevor.—He was obliged to leave me—it was in my own warehouse, and was late in the evening—I bid my servant give him and Taylor a pot of beer—I have known Brooks a great many years.—This was not the first time by many that I had given him money.

Upon what motive or reason had you given him money before?

He and I had been school-boys together, or play-mates—and he, his father, and brother, having constantly voted, in local contests for the city of Norwich, for myself.

In what circumstances was the son?

They were journeymen weavers, and all exceedingly poor—and the father had been frequently in the work-house.

Brooks has said, you spoke to him in these words—

“If four or five guineas will be of any service to you,

“call on me next Sunday morning, and you shall have

“it, provided you will promise to vote for Mr. Ho-

“bart”—Did you say any such thing?

I made no such promise.

Did any thing pass about four or five guineas?

Not that I remember; if it did, it came from himself.

Did you ask him to vote for Mr. Hobart in any shape or form of words, at that or at any other time?

I did not.

Do you know one Charles Johnson?—I do.

Do you remember his coming to you during the election?—I do.

Did



Did he make any application, and what?

He said, he had brought four voters.

At the time he brought those voters, was that the first time he came to you?

I think it was the first time I ever saw him in my house.

Did you know the four men?

I believed them to be voters.

Did they come into your house?

They came into the parlour of my house, where I was sitting with an acquaintance—a surgeon of Norwich, of the name of Fleming—a young person—Charles J hnson told me, he had brought with him four voters, who were determined to vote for Mr. Hobart, on condition they might have their rents discharged which they owed to their landlords—I then said to Fleming—“This is a conspiracy—you shall hear me talk to these gentlemen”—I then asked one of them, in the hearing of Fleming, what would satisfy them, nothing doubting their request would be very moderate—They were then all very drunk.—They said, two guineas a-piece would satisfy them—“Oh!” says I, “that is more money than I can raise”—One of them then said, that if I had it not in my pocket, I could obtain it—I said, “To be sure, I could sell some of the furniture, or pawn my watch,” shaking it out thus—“or perhaps they could do it for me”—returning my watch into my pocket in the instant—They said, they hoped I would not let them go away dry—One of the party said this—Upon which I gave them some wine that was standing on the table—and having drunk wine, they wanted something to eat—I was desirous of getting rid of them, and I drew half a guinea out of the table, and gave it them to drink—upon which they went away, and I have never seen them since.

Did Fleming see all this?—Yes, he did.

Was there nothing said about meeting somewhere next day?—They proposed meeting at Varnish’s.

Did you consent to that proposal?—No.

What passed upon that occasion?

They went away immediately—I declined the meeting at Varnish’s.

Did they come into your house first—or did you go out to them?

They came into the parlour—the servants let them in. Charles Johnson has been called, and has sworn in these words, “That the men said to you, that they required seven guineas and an half among them, two guineas each for three, and a guinea and an half for one—and that they required it to vote for Mr. Hobart only”—Is that true?

I presume that is tantamount to what I have said already.

Do you think they said, they required it to vote for Mr. Hobart only?

There was only a vacancy for one gentleman—my memory does not go to that expression particularly.

Do you know one Thomas Johnson?

There are two Thomas Johnsons.

Thomas Johnson, junior?—Yes.

Have you ever asked the four men, who came with Brooks, for their votes for Mr. Hobart?

I did not—at any time.

How long was this before the election that they were at your house?

About a fortnight, I believe—it was after dinner—about five or six o'clock.

Did you know any thing of Thomas Johnson junior, at a former election?

Yes, and many other elections.

Was he employed in any way at the general election in 1784?

Yes, he was employed by me in the department I then filled.

In what capacity was he employed?

It was my station at that election to enter the runners during the contest—one of which was this Johnson—he had been employed as a runner in a particular manner by myself—I had sent him on foot with a letter to Shottisham, which is seven miles from Norwich—when he returned, he asked me for some particular gratuity, or relief, as his shoes were so bad, his feet were visible through them.

Did

Did he come to you at any time during this last contest?

He did repeatedly—he made application to me for payment, for having been a runner at the last election, which he had not received. About a fortnight before the election, I saw him in Bear-street; and he said, he had been very ill-used because he had not been paid—that was the only reason of his following me—I asked him how long he had been employed at the former election,—he told me eleven or twelve days, and that he was disposed to vote for Mr. Hobart, if he could be paid for running at the former election—which he thought I ought to do, having myself entered his name, and employed him myself, quoting the circumstance of going to Shottisham—After discoursing some time, I agreed to give him a guinea, if that would be thought sufficient for his running—I did give it to him then.

Did you ask him for his vote?

I said, he now had it in his power to turn my kindness against me—he swore he would not, and went away to a public-house—opposite—or nearly opposite—collected a parcel of men together there, and spent the money.

Was that all that passed between you?

I believe it was all that passed between us at the house.

What house?

At the house of one Mr. Postern's, a grocer, in Bear-street.

Was there any thing passed between you out of the house?

The friends, he had collected to spend this money with, came out of the door, and insulted me the whole length of the street.

Do you know Harman, the Court-of-Conscience-man?

I do—he lives in the same street with me—I know one John Piggin very well—I had known him a long while before this election—he is a journeyman weaver, very poor indeed; he has been at times in the work-house.

Do you remember Harman coming to you, and telling you any thing about this Piggin, and what?

He



He came to my house, and brought Piggin in his custody, for a debt of three shillings (a Court of Conscience debt), which, with the Court charges, amounted to five shillings and four pence : the debt was at the suit of one Blogg—I discharged the debt by paying it.

Did you ask Piggin for his vote?—I did not—I have done him services before many times—I have helped him to work frequently—Piggin was always disposed to serve us—he had always voted for me in local elections, and I considered this execution as a persecution against him on account of his attachment to our party—I am a common-council man—I remember paying the debt for Piggin.

Have you ever been repaid it?—No.

Do you expect to be repaid it?

I do not—I never applied to be repaid it.

Was any thing said about voting when you paid it?

Nothing.

Had Piggin always voted by your directions at former elections?

We both voted the same way—I never knew him vote against us.

Do you know one Daniel Newman?

I do—he lives in the adjoining street to me.

Do you remember seeing him the day before the election?

I do—at the house of Garthorn—the Curriers Arms.

What passed between you there?

He sent one of our runners to me in the market-place—I went to him, and he told me, he had been ill-used, he had not been paid for a former election—It is necessary to observe, first, that this man, at the time I went into the room, was sitting in the kitchen, and very drunk—he desired to take me on one side—the kitchen being quite full of people, as it was the day before the election, we went into an adjoining room, the parlour, and there Newman asked me for some money, as payment for what was due to him—something or other of that kind—he stated it as due at a former election, and that was the reason for deserting us thus, as he called it—I told him I knew nothing of the matter, and should not pay it—that is all that passed.

Newman

Newman has sworn that you offered him, on that occasion, one pound five shillings, if he would vote for Mr. Hobart, and that he refused it—is that true?

I offered him nothing, and he had nothing—I believe, if I had offered it, he would have taken it.

Had he specified what was due to him?

That I really forget—the conversation was trifling—I don't recollect whether he did or not.

Did you say, "If you will vote for Mr. Hobart, I'll pay you what is due to you?"—I did not.

Did nothing of the kind pass, of paying or giving money, if he would vote for Mr. Hobart?

No, not a shilling.

Do you know Edward Tuffil?—I do.

He has talked of a conversation he had with you, and what he has said is this, "That you offered him half a guinea to be a runner, if he would be staunch to the party." Did you or did you not say so?

He was actually a runner.

Did you ever make that offer?

I paid him half a guinea a week. I employed him because I wanted him. I had half a dozen runners at my own house.

Did you offer him any money on that condition?

I never heard that mentioned, from him or to him. He was employed as a runner, from three weeks to six, at my house.

#### CROSS EXAMINED.

Did you offer him any money on the condition of being staunch to the party?

I made an answer before to that question.

State all that passed.

Tuffil came to my house, and desired to be made a runner.—I told him, I had not interest at the King's Head; but, as I wanted to employ a person at my own house, I would employ him as a runner; upon which, he came occasionally; and I think he received half a guinea a week.

Did you in fact ever put down any runner at the Committee, or recommended any?

That I really don't know whether I did or not.

Do you believe you did not?

I believe I did not. I was seldom at the Committee.

Is this Committee to understand that Tuffil was taken into your private service, to be employed as you thought fit?—Yes.

Did you board him and victual him?—No.

Did he live at Mr. Hobart's open houses?

He attended Mr. Hobart's Clubs of Freemen. He was employed from three to six weeks. I can't tell how many half-guineas I gave him.

Can you state how many days he was actually employed in your service?

At least a dozen or fourteen. At the days the houses were opened in our interest he always came.

What service did he do on these club-days.

I sent him to invite the freemen to our club, because sometimes the days and houses both varied.

Did you, upon your oath, send him on any other messages but these?

All kinds of messages relative to the business of the election.

Can you state any one particular business you sent him on during the whole contest, except inviting freemen to the feasts?

I can.—I sent him to the market-place, from my house, to order a coach to King-street; I remember it very well.

How many runners had you in your employ?

Only the number I have mentioned. I paid them myself, and have not been repaid by any body. I never considered myself as a member of the Committee.

Did you draw any drafts upon Mr. Kerrison?

Yes, to the amount of 100l. or 120l.

Were these drafts upon your own private account? or upon what other account?

They were upon account of the canvass—the election business.

Was it Mr. Hobart's money?

I did not know whose money it was. I knew there was money drawn on the election account.

If you did not know whose money this was, and you was not a member of the Committee, and if you acted independent of them and Mr. Hobart, by what authority did you draw out this money?

By



By the authority of my own discretion, being applied to occasionally or accidentally, on account of the absence of Mr. Hamp, or Mr. Hardingham.

Does the authority of your own discretion usually authorize you to draw for other people's money? Who desired you?—Mr. Goodwin.

In what character, and upon what pretence, did you draw drafts, not being a member of the Committee?

As a person known to be in the interest of Mr. Hobart, and as a person known to be sufficient at Mr. Kerison's for 20l.

Had you, upon any former occasion, drawn in this way upon Mr. Hobart's account?

At a former contest I had, for the purposes of the former election. I never did so but for the purposes of a former election.

How was that 100l. or 120l. for which you drew, applied?

Some of the drafts were applied for the purposes of the election in the room. I only ordered the money; and knew nothing about how they were applied. Some I used myself.

State the application of that you know of yourself?

It was Mr. Hardingham's employment to pay the runners that were employed by the Committee, and to attend at the King's-head three or four different Saturdays. Mr. Hardingham sent me messages to pay them for him, which I did, at the sign of the Black Boys in Saint George's parish: that was the purpose that I appropriated the money to that I used myself.

Do you mean to say that was the single application of the money? or was none of the money applied to other purposes by you?

I made three or four journeys into the country, to Colchester, and to town: for the necessary purposes of those journies, I applied some of that money.

How much of the money did you apply in these journeys?

I do not recollect. I have taken several journeys at my own expence, and have not been paid for them; nor applied for payment. I have been at a considerable expence, which I have not been paid for. I don't recollect any other appropriation of that money.

Do you recollect being in London during the contest?  
—I do.

Do you remember distributing half a guinea a-piece to any men?

In the plural number, I do not; in the singular, I do.

To whom did you give half a guinea in London?

It was for the use of one Teaseborough, to take his coat out of pawn. I think the person to whom I paid it was Henry Parkinson, and that is the only money I paid in London. Teaseborough was a freeman of Norwich, and voted for Mr. Hobart; he lived in London at that time. I don't know he went down to Norwich. I paid it out of my own pocket. I don't recollect half a guinea being given to any other person in London.

Can you state half a guinea, or any other sum, given by you to any freeman at Norwich?—I cannot.

Will you swear you did not give any other sums than those you have mentioned to freemen of Norwich, either at Norwich, or any where else?

I don't recollect that I did.

Did you visit the several public houses with Mr. Hobart?—I did.

How lately before the election?

I believe, from a few days after the beginning of the contest, till within two or three days of the election; this was at houses set apart for treating of the freemen.

Have you promised no money to any freemen?

None that I recollect.

You have said, that when Middleton was employed as a runner, you don't remember Mr. Hobart's name being used. Did he promise to vote for Mr. Hobart?

I don't recollect he was asked—I did not think it necessary.

Did he not say, that if he was put down as a runner, he would vote for Mr. Hobart?

I won't swear it did or not pass.

Did you give Brooks the half guinea before or after you told him he must vote for Sir Thomas Beevor?

After I had told him it was impossible for him to vote for Mr. Hobart. I believe my telling him he would be a rascal if he did not vote for Sir Thomas Beevor was the last expression used.

Did

Did you never ask any body for their vote for Mr. Hobart after they had told you they had promised their votes to Sir Thomas Beevor?

Many a one.

I don't believe it has happened many a times?

What do you mean by many a times?

Half a dozen times perhaps?—I believe it may have happened.

Do you mean that in the course of your canvass you may not have met with persons whom you have asked for their votes for Mr. Hobart, notwithstanding they had promised to vote for Sir Thomas Beevor.—It may have happened—I wished them all to keep their promises.

Did you ever give half a guinea to Brooks before?

Yes—not at a general election.

How long before this time had you given him half a guinea?

Sometimes I had given him half a crown, and sometimes seven shillings and six pence, in charity, that has never been repaid.

What did pass between you and Brooks about four or five guineas?

I don't remember it was mentioned at all.

Will you swear positively that you did not mention any thing about 4 or 5 guineas?—I will.

Do you know Mr. Arnold, a publican?—Yes.

Do you know of any money advanced by Arnold to voters?

I do not—I know Thomas Skeys, I don't know of any money advanced to him.

Do you you know John Skipper, or one Astill?

No.

Have you not notes in your possession from those different persons?

Arnold left notes with me to the amount of a guinea, and other small sums, and desired I would keep them for him—I have not got them now, I have left them at home—I have them still at home.

Have you any other papers of Arnold's except those notes?—No.

State to the Committee what passed between you and Arnold at the time they were left with you?

Arnold brought certain notes to me, and desired to



leave them with me, that they might not be lost, and so left them.

Was that all that passed?

He said, he had lent the money as the notes described, and he desired me to take care of them.

Upon your oath, was that all that passed?

That was the substance—some of the notes were given by people I did not know—Arnold kept a public house—his house was opened for freemen in Mr. Hobart's interest.

Had you any dealings with Arnold except what related to the election?—None.

Had you ever been applied to before by Arnold to take care of papers for him?—No.

Have you ever been applied to by Arnold for the notes, to recover the money upon them?—No.

Did you pay, give, or lend, Arnold any money during the contest?

I never gave him any—I never lent him any—but I paid him money on account of his bill.

These sums were not included in his bill?

I have paid him in advance for his bill—his bill is unpaid at this moment—I expect to be paid from Arnold the money I have advanced to him when the Committee pay his bill—I advanced him ten guineas, or thereabouts—I do expect to be paid by Arnold what I have advanced—I don't expect to be paid by the Committee, or by Mr. Hobart, all I have advanced—I never intend to apply for it.

State to the Committee, whether Arnold did not, when he gave you the notes, tell you they were for trifles he had advanced to voters, to procure their votes for Mr. Hobart, or use expressions of that sort?

Yes—he did.

What did he say?

He used expressions of that sort.

What answer did you make to that?

I don't remember the particular answer—I might say “very well.”

Did you add to your “very well” these words “if any more should apply to you, you may advance a little more, and I will see you paid.”

Question objected to, and waived.

Do you know of any other sums advanced by other persons to freemen, for which notes were taken?

I do not.

Do you know Mr. Wymes?—I do.

Did you pay any money to Mr. Wymes during the contests?—No.

State who the persons were who came with Charles Johnson?

I can't—I never saw them before nor since.

What reason had you for supposing that they were come to you for any improper purpose?—I was led to think so from my opinion of the man who brought them, Charles Johnson—I did not speak loud enough to Mr. Fleming for them to hear.

Was all the subsequent conversation for the entertainment of Mr. Fleming?

For him and myself—it was merely for a pastime—I gave them half a guinea to drink, in the way I have stated.

Was it for the pastime they had given you and Mr. Fleming that you gave them the half guinea? or for what other purpose?

As much for the purpose of getting rid of them as any thing—I did not like their company.

How much wine might they drink at your house?

That I don't remember—We might drink three or four bottles amongst us—they took it standing, and would have taken two or three bottles each—Fleming and I had a bottle before.

Was your house much resorted to, during the contest, by drunken freemen?—Yes—it was.

Did you always give them three or four bottles of wine, and a half guinea, to get rid of them when they came?—Not always—I did sometimes.—I don't mean the half guinea.

In how many instances may you have done so?

Several times.

Besides giving the wine, how often have you given half a guinea to such persons?

I don't know I ever did at all.

How often may you have given drink and money? and what sums?

Drink very frequently—I was not at home every day—it

—it might be ten times in one week, and not so many very likely in another fortnight.

How often did you give money besides drink?

I don't recollect any instances but what I have mentioned—I don't swear I did not, but I will swear that I don't remember I did.

Have you often declared, that, if you was to pay all the money out of your own pocket, that you had engaged or promised to pay to voters, and every hair of your head was to go for a guinea, you should not have a hair left, or expressions to that tendency?

I never did, nor anything like it.

Did the people propose to go to Varnishe's before or after you had given them the half guinea?

I don't recollect.

What did you say to it?

My answer went to decline it—I said, I don't chuse it, or words to that effect—I did not regard what they understood.

Did the phrase itself import that you could not go?

Evidently.

What were Thomas Johnson's express words?

He told me, I could not but know he had run before at the former election, and mentioned the circumstance of his very bad shoes.

Did he say that you ought to do it as you had employed him?—Yes.

What did you mean to say when you used this expression, “he now had it in his power to turn my kindness against me, and to fight me with my own weapons?”

He came full of the profession of voting for Mr. Hobart, if he could have his own debt paid—he had sent his father before; and, to prove it a just debt, he mentioned the circumstance of his bad shoes, and bad weather—this induced me to pay him.

Question repeated.

That he ought to vote for Mr. Hobart, as he then professed; instead of which, he went and got folks to laugh at me for it.

Was the fighting you with your own weapons—the receiving your money, and voting for Sir Thomas Beevor?

It might be so.

What was the nature of the abuse?



Only that I had been humbugged, or overreached.

What do you mean by that ?—I mean, deceived.

How deceived ?

I found it out by going past the public house from the place where our conversation happened, and from which public house he had been sent for the purpose of getting money for his former running.

State, upon your oath, whether you don't mean this—that he had taken your money under a promise to vote for Mr. Hobart, and that he had deserted that promise, and would vote for Sir Thomas Beevor ?

My idea of it is exactly this, that from the professions of his design to vote for Mr. Hobart, and from the justice of the claim, I gave him the guinea—which professions I found to be false when I went past the door of the public house (where he was with a score of others) by their abuse—I saw I paid my money upon the faith of professions, which I found would be broke.

Can you state of what parish Blogg was, or his Christian name ?

His Christian name I don't know—the house is either in the parish of Saint Saviour, or Saint Paul—he keeps the Cross Keys, a public house.

Had you ever paid money to Mr. Harman upon execution before ?—I had not—never.

Did you take a note from Piggim for the money ?

I did not.

What did you say to Newman in answer to his statement ?

I said, I did not know that it was so—it might or might not.

Did you add to that, that you would enquire, and, if it was due, that you would pay it if he would vote for Mr. Hobart ?

I made him no promise of any kind—he was very drunk—I did not tell him any thing about it.

Was you present at any time when Mr. Hobart canvassed Newman ?—I was not.

Do you know Mr. Thomas Watson and Mr. Barnard, Churchwardens of Saint George's, Colgate ?

Yes.

[Paper shewn to the Witness.]

Is that a declaration made by yourself ?—It is.

Withdrew.

Mr.

Mr. Garrow proposes to read the paper in evidence, in order to impeach the credit of the witness.

Mr. Partridge objects to the paper being read.

Mr. Garrow heard in answer.

The Committee determine, that the paper is not proper to be read.

JOHN ROACH again.

COMMITTEE.

What journeys did you take at your own expence?

My statement goes to this—that I expended more money than I took in the various journeys I took—I came three times to town, and went twice to Bury, and twice to Yarmouth.

Were the runners at your house paid at your own cost?—They really were.—I paid Arnold money in advance for his bill—I expect to be paid again when the bill is settled.

Do you mean to say thar all the acts you did, in this election, were at your own direction, and not at the request of any body?

Entirely. The first bottle was not all drunk, when I and Fleming were together, before Johnson and the others came in.

Would you have been humbugged out of the guinea if Johnson had told you he would not have voted for Mr. Hobart?

I don't think I should.—He said, "I am desirous to vote for Mr. Hobart, but will not do it unless that debt is paid, which you know to be a just one."

State what passed immediately after these expressions were used by Johnson?

I did not give the money without some conversation.

Should you have paid him the guinea if he had not given you reason to think he would vote for Mr. Hobart?

I should not—I should not have paid it without knowing it to be just.

Should you have paid it merely in consideration of the justice of the claim?

I don't know that I should—I never communicated this to Mr. Hobart or his friends.

Did you ever communicate to Mr. Hobart, or his friends, what you have done, or what you meant to do, in the course of this business!

To

To Mr. Hobart never; and to his friends only in the course of conversation.

Do you mean the Committee when you say friends!

I never mentioned it before in order to derive authority, nor afterwards so as to receive approbation. I have been for many years a freeman of the city of Norwich. I did not desire I might not be a member of the Committee. I did make out lists of the canvass in my own parish, and returned it to the Committee—I accompanied Mr. Hobart in his canvass, and naturally sent the list to the Committee.

Was you a parochial manager?

The canvass was made by parishes—I was manager in the parish I lived. The parish was canvassed by the inhabitants of the parish, and not by the members of the Committee.—The account of money drawn by me from Kerrison's is not yet settled.—The other parishes were on the same footing as ours.

Withdrew.

THOMAS DAY sworn;

(To contradict some of the witnesses called by the Petitioner.)

I live at Norwich, and am a freeman of the city—I live in St. Martin's parish.

Do you know one Peter Hagan?—I do.

Did you attend Mr. Hobart, to canvass Hagan?

I did.

Did Mr. Hobart ask him for his vote in your presence?—He did.

Was that the beginning of the conversation between Mr. Hobart and Hagan?—It was.

What answer did Hagan make to Mr. Hobart's request?

He said, he should like to vote for Mr. Hobart; but he was afraid, if he did, he should be turned out of work—but his son (I think he said) should vote for him—he either said son, or some near relation—he said, his master voted for Sir Thomas Beevor, and he was afraid he should be turned out of work if he did not—Mr. Hobart then said, "I hope you will not vote against me;" that was all that passed that I recollect.

PART II.

G

Did



Did Mr. Hobart go out of the room after this had passed?

Immediately—he was going out of the room when he said these words.

Was this the whole that passed between Mr. Hobart and Hagan in your hearing at that time?

Yes, to the best of my knowledge.

Was you left by Mr. Hobart with Hagan?

Mr. Hobart went out of the room first, and I followed him instantly—It was up stairs.

Did you say any thing to Hagan after Mr. Hobart had said, “I hope you won’t vote against me?”

I don’t recollect I said any thing to him after that.

Did you canvass Hagan at any time but that?

Before that time I had spoke to him—Mr. Hobart was only with me that one time.

Did you leave Hagan in his room?—Yes.

Was any thing said at that time about Hagan’s being a chairman?

At the time Mr. Hobart was with me, I don’t think there was a syllable said about his being a chairman—I am confident, I said nothing about his being a chairman at that time; and Mr. Hobart did not mention the chair—I don’t think he was two minutes in the room.

How long was it before you went to Hagan with Mr. Hobart, that you canvassed Hagan?

It was in the early part of the contest.

Did Hagan then inform you which way he should vote?

He then said, he would vote for Mr. Hobart—This was when I first applied to him.

Was any mention then made about his being a chairman?

There was—he said, he wished to be chairman, and ask’d me to recommend him—I think after he had promised to vote for Mr. Hobart—I told him, I would recommend him.

Do you know Joshua Middleton?—I do.

—Did you canvass for his vote?

—I did—I canvassed him with Mr. Hobart, but first by myself—he lives in St. Martin’s parish, and near to my house—when I first canvassed him, he told me, he was undetermined—he said, if he did, he should expect to be chairman;

chairman ; and I told him, I would ask to have him put down a chairman.—He did not then promise his vote, he said he was undetermined—I went to him afterwards with Mr. Hobart—Mr. Hobart asked for his vote—he said, he believed then he should vote for Sir Thomas Beevor—Mr. Hobart said, “ I hope you won’t vote against me ”—that is all that passed—Mr. Hobart then left the room—To the best of my knowledge, that is the whole of what passed between Mr. Hobart, Middleton, and myself.

Was any offer made to him, either by Mr. Hobart or yourself, if he would vote for Sir Thomas Beevor ?

Mr. Hobart never said a word more to him than what I have mentioned, that I recollect—I did not offer him any thing not to vote for Sir Thomas Beevor.

Was any thing said to him, by either of you, about being a chairman at that time.—Not a word was mentioned about being a chairman at that time—nor about staves.

Did you ever see Middleton in company with Mr. Hobart but that one time ?—No.

Did Mr. Hobart offer Middleton, in your hearing, to be either chairman or staves-man ?

No—We left Middleton above stairs.

#### CROSS EXAMINED.

Was you one of Mr. Hobart’s Committee ?

I did reckon myself upon the Committee.

Did you act in any way on the behalf of Mr. Hobart during the election ?

I did not reckon myself on the Committee.

Did you act in any way on behalf of Mr. Hobart during the election ?

I asked friends, and people whom I knew, to vote for him.

Is that the only manner in which you employed yourself in behalf of Mr. Hobart, during the canvass and the election ?

I don’t recollect any thing else—I may have helped the clerk, when they were busy, to cast up a bill when I have been in the Committee-room.

What do you mean by the Committee-room ?

There was a room at the King’s head which was called the Committee-room—a public room.

Do you know why it was called the Committee-room?

I don't know any reason why it was called so.

Can you state what business was usually transacted in that room when you was present?

When I have been present, people have come there to be paid bills.

What bills do you mean?

I believe they have been bills of expence by public-house-keepers.

Were these the bills that you have said you occasionally assisted the clerk in casting up?

They were—I have sometimes assisted the clerk in casting up these bills when there were two or three at a time.

Did you ever pay any of these bills?

I never did—the clerk has handed me money, which I have given to the person.

How frequently may you have done this?

Very seldom.

How often, as nearly as you can recollect?

I have no memorandums of it—I can't say how often.

Mention to the best of your recollection any number of times when you paid publicans bills, by money given to you by the clerk in the Committee-room?

I cannot say the number of times.

Have you ever paid any publicans bills with money given to you by any other person?—Never.

Have you seen any such bills paid in the Committee room by any other persons, and if so by whom?

I never did, without it was in the manner I paid that I mentioned.

Have you then seen other bills paid in the manner you paid that?

I can't positively say; but I think I have.

Was you one of those persons who met from time to time in this room, for conducting the business of Mr. Hobart's election?

The room was public; and I have walked in it occasionally, as other people did.

Do you mean to swear that you only walked into that room occasionally, as other people did?

I have been sent for, to come to that room.

What



What then did you mean, by saying that you only went in occasionally as other people did?

I have gone in without being sent for.

By whom was you sent to attend in this Committee-room?

I have had some of the runners come to me?

Did you attend in consequence of such messages?

Sometimes I did, and sometimes I did not.

Do you know whether there was a select Committee appointed to conduct the business of Mr. Hobart's election?—I have been told there was.

By whom?—I can't tell.

Will you swear, that you do not of your own knowledge know, that there was a Committee appointed to act?

I do not know it of my own knowledge—I never was requested, or asked, to be upon the Committee.

Will you swear, that you was not upon the Committee?

I don't know what it is that constitutes the Committee.

Will you swear, that you was not one of those persons who met from time to time, during the canvass and the election, at the King's head, to conduct on the part of Mr. Hobart the business thereof?

I said that I went there sometimes.

How frequent might you go there?

I can't tell the precise number of times I went—I can't recollect—I have no memorandums about it.

Will you swear, to the best of your recollection and belief, that you was not at that meeting fifty times?

I believe I was not there fifty times—I can't say exactly.

Do you think you may have been there forty times?

It is only conjecture what I may think.

What is your conjecture on this subject?

I may have been in the room such a number of times—I went there pretty often.

Have you ever heard from Mr. Hamp, that there was such a select Committee?

To the best of my knowledge, I never did hear that from Mr. Hamp.

Mr. Hamp having already sworn that you was of that Committee, will you swear that you was not?

Have

Have you, during the course of the election, paid any bills, but those of publicans on the account of Mr. Hobart?

No—I never paid any bills but in the way I have mentioned.

Have you ever drawn on Mr. Kerrison for any money on account of the expences of this Election?

I signed a bill from Mr. Hardingham to Mr. Kerrison. Mr. Hardingham drew money on Mr. Kerrison; and he asked me to sign that paper for him, to go to take the money of Kerrison, for the convenience of keeping his accounts—He did not like to go without some name to the paper to take the money.

What sort of paper was it you signed at Hardingham's desire?

It was a paper, he said, he was to go to Mr. Kerrison's with.

At the time you signed this paper, will you swear you was ignorant of its contents?

I knew it was for him to receive some money.

Did you read the paper before you signed it?

I am not certain—I rather think I did.

Is it usual for you to sign papers, purporting to be orders for the payment of money, at the desire of any person who may ask you?

It is not usual for me to sign papers—I did it at the request of Mr. Hardingham.

Did you ever sign such a paper, except in this single instance, at the request of any person whatever?

I don't recollect that I ever did.

Was this paper, to the best of your recollection and belief, an order upon Mr. Kerrison for the payment of money?

To the best of my recollection, it was.

Was it an order on Mr. Kerrison, to pay money belonging to you, which he had at that time in his hands?

No—it was not.

Out of what money was this draft to be paid?

I don't know.

Is it usual for you to draw drafts on a banker, not knowing out of what money they are to be paid?

I never do draw money on a banker.

Question

Question repeated.

I don't draw drafts on a banker—Mr. Hardingham requested me to do this, for the convenience of keeping his accounts.

In what way could it conduce to the convenience of his keeping his accounts, that you should draw a draft on Mr. Kerrison, not knowing out of what fund it was to be paid?

I don't know in what way; I did it at the request of Mr. Hardingham.

Will you positively swear, that that was your inducement for drawing this draft?

I had no other inducement.

Would you have done it without such inducement?

I understood it for that, and for nothing else.

Withdrew.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

Martins,



*Martis, 6<sup>o</sup> die Martii, 1787.*

THOMAS DAY again sworn.

(CROSS EXAMINATION continued.)

State the whole of the conversation that passed between you and Mr. Hardingham, when he requested you to draw this draft?

He said (to the best of my recollection), I ask any friend of Mr. Hobart's to sign these drafts, for the convenience of my keeping my accounts. Nothing more passed; it was in the public room.

Did he explain to you at the time, out of what fund this draft was to be paid?

He said, he (Hardingham) was to receive money at Mr. Kerrison's.

Is the Committee to understand, that by Hardingham's authority you drew a draft on Kerrison, in order that Hardingham might receive the money?

That Hardingham might receive the money on account of Mr. Hobart.

Had you any authority from Mr. Hobart to draw upon his banker?—None.

Did you know whether or not Mr. Hardingham had any such authority at the time he requested you to draw this draft?

I did not know that he had any authority.

Did you, at the time you drew the draft, believe it would be paid?—Yes.

You did not know Mr. Hardingham to have any authority to draw on account of Mr. Hobart, and knew yourself to have none; what were your reasons for believing such a draft would be paid?

Mr. Hardingham told me, Mr. Kerrison did pay those drafts, and had paid them before.

You are now speaking of a draft you drew, for the first time, on Mr. Kerrison; how then could Mr. Hardingham have informed you, that Mr. Kerrison had paid those drafts before?

I mean such drafts as those, signed by any of Mr. Hobart's friends.

Had you more than once any such conversation with Mr. Hardingham?

To the best of my recollection, that conversation every time I signed any draft.

Did you sign drafts more than once?

I believe I did.

How often?—I believe two or three times.

Did Mr. Hardingham, each time that you drew those drafts, induce you to do it by alledging that it would conduce to his convenience in keeping his accounts?

To the best of my recollection he did.

[Three papers shewn to the witness.]

Are those your hand-writing?

I believe the name to be my hand-writing. I have no doubt about it.

You have said that you canvassed Hagan for his vote in company with Mr. Hobart; and that, at that time, Hagan said he should like to vote for Mr. Hobart, but he was afraid, if he did, he should be turned out of work; and that was the beginning of the conversation between Mr. Hobart and him. Will you swear that no other conversation had passed between Mr. Hobart and Hagan, or you and Hagan, before that?

Not in company with Mr. Hobart.

Did you remain in the room after Mr. Hobart left it?

A very short space of time—scarce to be measured.

Did any conversation pass in that space of time between you and Mr. Hagan?

I said, as I was coming down the stairs, I would have him please himself; for I could not desire any man should be turned out of work.

Was this the whole conversation that passed between you?

I think that was the whole of the conversation that passed at that time.

Then will you swear that no other conversation passed between Mr. Hobart and Hagan, or Hagan and you, at this meeting, but what you have already related?

I don't recollect any other.

If any other had passed, do you think you should recollect it?

PART II.

H

I should

I should endeavour to recollect it, and I think I beould recollect it.

Is the Committee to understand, that some other conversation may have passed, and that you may not recollect it ?

I think that no other conversation did pass.

Question repeated.

It is possible that it may. Mr. Hobart was a very little while in the room.

You have informed the Committee, that this was the second time you applied to Hagan ; and that before he had actually promised to vote for Mr. Hobart. Did you, at this second meeting, remind him of his promise ?—— I think I did.

Then you cannot have related the whole of the conversation that passed ?——I know of no other.

Why did you not inform the Committee of this circumstance passing in the second conversation ?

I am not sure of it, I spoke to the best of my recollection.

What do you now recollect on the subject ?

I recollect Mr. Hobart asked him for his vote.

Do you recollect whether, at this meeting, you reminded Mr. Hagan of his former promise to vote for Mr. Hobart, and claimed the performance of it ?

I cannot speak positively to that.

Is the Committee to understand, that you have in general but an imperfect recollection of what passed at this meeting ?

I have no notes nor memorandums.

Question repeated.

I speak from the best recollection I have.

Question repeated again.

I have a recollection agreeable to such a distance of time, I can't recollect every circumstance ; my recollection is but imperfect.

Did you recommend Hagan to be put down as a chairman, in consequence of his application for that purpose, when



when you first applied to him to vote for Mr. Hobart?

I did not. It was in the early part of the contest, before any thing of that kind was thought of.

Did you tell him you would?

I said, I would ask for it.

Did you tell Middleton, that you would apply for him to be put down as a chairman likewise?—I did.

Did you apply for Middleton to be put down as a chairman?—I did not.

Is it usual for you to make promises, and not to perform them?

Before the time came of putting down chairmen, I had been told that they had been at Sir Thomas Beevor's houses.

Was this the reason why you did not apply?—Yes.

Would you otherwise have applied?

I believe I should.

Have you an accurate recollection of all that passed between you and Middleton when Mr. Hobart applied to Mr. Middleton for his vote?

I have given the most accurate of it I could.

Question repeated.

There may be circumstances that happened that I forgot.

[Paper shewn to the Witness.]

Is the signature to that paper your hand-writing?

I believe it to be my hand-writing.

[Paper delivered in, and read, purporting to be a recommendation of Mr. Middleton to Sir John Woodhouse, (signed) Thomas Day].

Re-examined.

Do you remember when you signed that?—I do not.

Was it before or after the election?

I think it was before this last election. The father applied to me, and he was not a freeman.

How long did Mr. Hobart and you continue with

Hagan?—I think not above two minutes; if so long.

Have you given an account of the whole of what passed between you three at that time to the best of your recollection?—I have.

Have you also given an account of the whole of what passed between Middleton, Mr. Hobart, and yourself, to the best of your recollection?—I have.

If any thing more had passed than you have mentioned, do you think you should recollect it?

I think I should recollect it. I mean to speak both to the conversation with Hagan and Middleton.

When you went to the King's-head, and found Hardingham there, were there any other persons who set their hands to drafts besides yourself?

Not at the same time, that I recollect.

Did you ever see any other person there sign drafts at the request of Mr. Hardingham?

I think I have seen Mr. Hamp.

Any other person?

I don't recollect to have seen any other.

In what capacity did you sign the three drafts that have been produced?

At the request of Mr. Hardingham, as the friend of Mr. Hobart.

Withdrew.

Mr. Harvey attends as Counsel for Mr. Hobart, in the room of Mr. Douglas.

HENRY FLEMING sworn.

Are you in the habit of laying bets?

I have laid one on this very election.

What bet have you laid?

Mr. Samuel Martin laid me a bet of 100 guineas, at Mr. Gurney's bank, to 80 guineas, that Sir Thomas Beevor would be fitting member on the vacancy.

Have you been paid?

I have not. Mr. Hobart is not mentioned in the bet.—I reckon I have won my bet.

Have you laid any other bet?—I have.

What is it?

Mr. Fisher, the Linen-draper, laid me three guineas to a guinea and an half, at the same time. Mr. Martin laid

laid the bet for Mr. Bolton ; I was only part concerned in it.—I am a surgeon. I am a freeman of Norwich. I voted for Mr. Hobart. I know Mr. John Roach of Norwich perfectly well.

Do you recollect at any time, and when, being at Mr. Roach's, when one Charles Johnson called there?

I recollect being there previous to the election.

Did Charles Johnson come alone, or did he come in company?—He came with four men.

State what passed between these four men, Johnson, and Mr. Roach, as nearly as you can recollect.

Johnson observed to Mr. Roach, that he brought those men that would promise him to vote for Mr. Hobart. I believe Mr. Roach said, You are fine fellows, or something of that sort. They said, they owed some money to their landlords; and that their goods would immediately be distrained if they were not satisfied. That their landlords were friends of Sir Thomas Beevor. They told Mr. Roach, I think, that they wanted seven guineas and an half. Mr. Roach said, in a jocular manner, The request is a very modest one. We were drinking some wine or ale; and Mr. Roach asked them to drink; and they drank some wine. After drinking some little time, they appeared to be intoxicated, as it was very evident they had been drinking before they came in. They then asked for something to eat, and began to grow troublesome and noisy, frequently abusing Sir Thomas and his friends. They wanted some money, as I mentioned before. They declared they would certainly vote for Mr. Hobart. Mr. Roach observed, he would not talk of the election at all. They expressed a second wish for some money, and Mr. Roach gave them eighteen-pence for something to eat. They said, they could not eat and drink his health with that; Mr. Roach then gave them half a guinea.

Do you recollect any thing passing about a watch?

I do: they observed to Mr. Roach, that half a guinea was a trifle, and wished Mr. Roach to give them some more money. Mr. Roach said, he had no more. They told him, he could get some. He said, Yes, he could sell his furniture, or that he could give them that watch, as a pledge (which he pulled out of his pocket), and he returned his watch immediately again.

De-



Describe in what manner this was done.

He observed, with respect to his furniture, and said, "Why, dammee, I could pledge this watch." The men went away almost immediately after this.

When the men went away, was there any conversation about meeting again, and where?

I recollect the men entreated Mr. Roach very much to meet them at a house in Bear-street; I think they said Varnish's.

Did Mr. Roach consent to that proposal?

That I don't recollect. I don't think he did.

Did any conversation pass between Mr. Roach and you after the men went away?

Yes. I observed to Mr. and Mrs. Roach, that I thought the men were all rascals (this was in the kitchen): Mr. Roach said, he knew very little of any but Johnson, and agreed with me that they were.

#### CROSS EXAMINED.

It occurred to me, from the manner, that they were so, as soon as they were gone. Mr. Roach said, he had no opinion of Johnson; and agreed with me in my guesses. It was after dinner; and they drank about two or three bottles, some of them sitting and standing. He gave them half a guinea besides the eighteen pence. He took the half-guinea out of his pocket, I believe. I am sure that I recollect these circumstances very accurately. Mr. Garthorn summoned me to attend this Committee. Mr. Roach and I had this over together this morning. I have not seen the minutes of yesterday.

Did you differ in any circumstances?

I don't recollect we did. I told my tale to him. I believe I drank both wine and ale. We agreed in the whole matter. I wish to recollect; it is a nice matter. I can't tax my mind with any thing in which we differed. I don't recollect any conversation in particular that passed between me and Roach; but the men went away. I suspected them to be rascals all the while. The conversation about the men and their design was after the men was gone: that I am sure of. I was with Mr. Roach frequently during the contest. Mr. Roach said more than once, that he would not talk to them about the

the election. Those men were forcing themselves upon him. They had the eighteen pence and the half-guinea but a little before they went. I remember it all perfectly well : I can't name the day. They drank before they received the half-guinea, and had some wine after : they were what we call in Norfolk three-quarter drunk. I came to town yesterday morning. I spoke to Mr. Froward yesterday before I saw Mr. Roach, and I told him the same story. I don't recollect the word "Conspirators" being used in the conversation ; I might ; but if it was, I don't recollect it.

Withdrew.

To give an account of what passed in London.

CHARLES LEFTLY sworn.

I live in the Strand, London : I am a Grocer : I am not a freeman of Norwich.

Are you acquainted with any Norwich freemen residing in London ?—Several.

Did you apply to any Norwich freemen resident in London, previous to the last election ?—I did.

For whom ?

For the Hon. Henry Hobart.

Was you required by Mr. Hobart to do this, or by whom ?—No, I was not.

Who gave you authority to act for Mr. Hobart ?

Mr. Richard Pye and Mr. James Gartham.

When had you your authority from them !

On the 17th of July.

Did you receive that authority in London ?—I did.

Describe what you did in consequence of that authority ?

I applied myself to the London freemen. Seaman was the first ; he is a freeman, and lives in Fashion-street, Spital-fields, and a man who I knew was conversant with the Norwich freemen resident in and about that neighbourhood. It may be not improper to say, that I was employed in the same capacity with Mr. Wyndham against Mr. Hobart at a former election : I asked Seaman whether he was willing to take a part of the business under me, as I was authorized to act for Mr. Hobart. His answer was, he could not think that we were both

one

one way : for, in the late election, I had addressed him in the same manner, and he had refused me. We proceeded to Banes's, the Tewkesbury Church, in White-chapel. Banes was a Norwich freeman ; I solicited him likewise : his answer was, he would wait to hear from my master (meaning Mr. Hobart). We left his house, and went to Wilson's. Seaman and I parted. I went to Wilson's, who keeps a public-house in Clare-street, Clare-market, which house I had before used for Mr. Wyndhan's freemen. I asked him, if it was agreeable to him to let me have his house for the friends of Mr. Hobart. He told me, Yes and welcome ; upon this we shook hands, and parted. I did not go to any other house then. I went afterwards to one Clark's, in Newport street, who refused me.

What house did you in fact open ?

After Mr. Clark had denied me, I went to the One Ton in Goodge-street, kept by one Edwards—he agreed to it—Wilson in Clare-street agreed at first, but afterwards refused as he had received a guinea from a Parson Wilks.

Who consented besides ?

Ballard, who keeps the Sun and Tobacco Roll ; and Barwell, of the Red Hart in Shoe-lane.

Did you meet the freemen occasionally at these houses ?—I did.

How often ?

Every day, at one or other of these houses.

How many might you engage in the whole ?

129 was the number we took down.

Did you ask them for their votes ?—Yes.

In what way did you apply to the freemen ?

To know if they were inclinable to vote for Mr. Hobart—I told them who were the candidates—most of them that ever met promised.

Did they promise the first time you saw them ?

They did.

Was any thing said at that time about their going to Norwich ?—Nothing.

State when any mention was first made about their going down to Norwich ?

There could be none, because the time was certain.

Did you ever mention any thing to the voters respecting their going to Norwich ?

Yes,



Yes, at the time the writ was issued.

Do you know at what time the writ was issued, and how long before the election?

About the 11th of September, that was the earliest time I knew of its being issued—on the Monday before the election.

What passed at that time with respect to the voters whom you had applied to in the interest of Mr Hobart?

I desired them to make every preparation for their going down.

Was any preparation made in consequence of that request?—There was.

In what way were the voters sent down to Norwich?

Some in coaches—some on the outside—some in chaises—some in the dillies—some on horseback, and some in one-horse chaises—none on foot.

Did any voters go out of London before this time?

A great many.

Were they sent by your directions?—They were.

How many might be sent before the Monday?

Upwards of forty.

Who paid the expences of the voters going down to Norwich?—I did.

Did you accompany them?

One part—the last part that went off was on the Thursday, and I went with them.

Were the expences of the voters on the road going down to Norwich defrayed by you?—They were.

How long did you stay in Norwich after the election?

Near a week.

At whose expence did the voters return to London?

Some at mine, and some at their own.

Did you pay any money to any of the London voters at Norwich?—I did.

How much did you pay to them?

Some two guineas, and some three.

Had you agreed with any of the voters before they left London to pay them any sum of money?—None.

Did the voters, who received three guineas of you at Norwich, pay their own expences up to London?

They did.

Did the voters, who received two guineas of you, pay their expences going up to London?

PART II.

I

They

They did not.

Is the Committee to understand that the expences of all the voters down to Norwich was defrayed by you?

They were—except the two coaches that went to Swaffham.

Do you of your own knowledge know who paid the expence of those two coaches?—I do not.

Did you pay more than three guineas to any London voter that came down to Norwich?—I did.

To whom?—To about four or six gentlemen.

In what way did those gentlemen travel down?

One of them on horseback, two of them in a chaise, and I think the others went in chaises. I gave one of them five guineas, a voluntary act of my own—they never solicited a farthing—he paid every expence during the whole time—he went in the chaise with me, which I paid—he returned to London at his own expence, I believe he staid a month or more: I left him in the country.

Did any of the voters receive any thing in London, to your knowledge, before they set off?

One of them borrowed half a guinea of me, his name is Teaseborough.

How long before the election?

A month or five weeks.

Do you remember whether he had promised you his vote, before he applied for the money?—Long before.

Was any reason given for which he wanted the half guinea.

There was—several days before, his landlady said she would turn him out of his lodgings if he did not pay her?

Do you know of any other money advanced by yourself to any other voter but him?—None.

Did you give Seaman any authority to advance any?

I gave him some money, as several of the freemen wanted to borrow a guinea; believe he had upwards of 20 guineas; there was a petition sent in, that those freemen wanted to borrow guineas a-piece, but I would have nothing to say to it—I let him have twenty guineas, so that he had £40 in the whole; but he had the runners to pay, and his own expences.

Was any account given to you of who the freemen were, that had money from Seaman?

Yes—I had several names.

Do you remember whether you paid any of these persons whose names were so given at Norwich?

Yes—they were nearly all present; Tilney was not.

Was any notice taken of the sums they had received in London, when you paid them at Norwich?

There was—I gave to every man, as they were called in, three guineas—this was after the election was over—Seaman was at the side of me, who received the three guineas, and to those who had received one he gave only two guineas—he deducted the money, for I was very well acquainted with their principles—Teaseborough's father received his money for him, and paid me the half-guinea—I have seen Tilney at the Sun and Tobacco Roll in London.

Do you remember mentioning any thing to him respecting the sum of five guineas?

Question objected to, and waived.

Had you any conversation with him at that place?

I never would be in company with any of them privately.

In public company have you had any conversation with Tilney?—Never.

Have you ever mentioned any thing in public company, when Tilney was present, in respect to any thing which the voters were to receive in case they went down to Norwich?—No—never.

Do you know how much Tilney received in the whole?

He borrowed a guinea, which was paid, and received two of me—he borrowed a guinea of Barwell—Seaman paid him out of his own pocket, and I gave it to Seaman again—I gave him four shillings, to pay his expences in the dilly.

Was any thing offered to Tilney by you at any time before he went down to Norwich?—No.

Do you remember what passed between Tilney and you when you first canvassed him?

There was no private conversation, he promised me his vote at that time—there were about forty that met at the Tobacco Roll in Fashion-street.



Do you know Samuel Johnson?—Very well.

Did he use to attend at the Sun and Tobacco Roll?

He was a constant customer at every house—a very good one.

What passed between Johnson and you, when you canvassed him for his vote?

Always ready and willing to give his vote for Mr. Hobart—he promised me his vote the first time I canvassed him.

Did you make him any offer of any thing at the time you first canvassed him?

Never—I'll swear four times over, that I did not make him any such offer at that time.

At any other time than the first, did you offer him any thing for his vote?

No—never—far from it, I have often wished him to withdraw from the room—I never made him any such—to him or any other man.

Did Seaman in your presence make any offer to Johnson?—No.

Did you ever make any promise to Johnson of any thing?—No.

Did Seaman make any promise to him in your presence or your hearing?—No.

Had you ever any authority from any person to make such an offer?—No—oftentimes to the contrary.

Of whom did you receive the money which you paid to the London voters? and for the expences of their journeys?

Of Mr. Vere and Williams in Birchin Lane, by drafts on that house—they were endorsed by Mr. Hamp, and made payable to me—they amounted to about 800*l.* in the whole.

Were the publicans bills in London paid out of that sum?—Yes.

In what way did you expend it?

I received 80*l.* from Mr. Hobart besides, by drafts on another house—in paying the coaches, post-chaifes, single-horse-chaifes, and the freemen.—I believe I received 900*l.* in the whole, or thereabouts.

#### CROSS EXAMINED.

Seaman had been for Mr. Hobart before, and I at that

that time for Mr. Wyndham—I believe I met the freemen every day, excepting one day when I was out of town—Seaman was my assistant—he was my acting man—forty voters went from London before the Monday—they were sent for the conveniency of getting to Norwich, and in order to be ready when he wanted them.

How much is yet unpaid besides the £880 you have mentioned?—There is about 200l.

Did you ever talk with any of those voters, during the course of the canvass, upon the subject of money?

Never privately.

Neither private nor public with any of the voters before they went to Norwich?—Never, with any one, nor any where.

What part of the business did you commit to Seaman?

To go after the freemen.

Upon your oath, was it not understood, that the money-part of the business was to be transacted by Seaman, and not by you?—No.

Had you no reason to believe, in any part of your canvass, that Seaman had conversation with the voters upon the subject of money?

Of the loan of those guineas.

What petition was it that you spoke about as being sent to you by freemen who wanted a guinea a-piece?

Several of them had drawn up a written paper, and signed their names, wanting to borrow a guinea each—this was before they left London—I would have nothing to do with it myself—I turned it over to Seaman.—If these people wanted to borrow a guinea of him, or of the public houses, and they chose to do it, it was very well—I had nothing to do with it.

Was you present at the payment of all the freemen at Norwich, except Tilney?

Nearly; I have acted for Mr. Bacon, Mr. Wyndham, and Mr. Hobart, in election business—I have had public conversation with Tilney, in the room with all others—I have addressed them all, and said, if they were willing to go down in the interest of Mr. Hobart, I should take care to acquit myself the same as I had done in the election of Mr. Wyndham.

State what that means.

The meaning of it was, to defray their expences, and to pay them for their loss of time.

Did they know that to be your meaning?

I could

I could not stipulate a sum—Mr. Wyndham's free-men had three guineas a man ; but it was impossible I could say Mr. Hobart would give that—There were persons there that had voted for Mr. Wyndham, and who knew how I had acquitted myself on that occasion—I never told the voters any sum whatever—I know Samuel Johnson—I never had any conversation with him—I have told him to withdraw from the room, as he was a very disagreeable and troublesome man—he is a drunken man ; that was my reason, and I had no other, for wishing him to withdraw—There were four others I wished to withdraw on the same account—I never paid David Harwis ten and six pence, nor any money at all—I know Parkinson, I believe I gave him a guinea—he was a runner—he is a London voter—I gave him one or two guineas—and that was all.

Re-examined.

Did the voters who went to vote for Mr. Wyndham have three guineas for their loss of time ?

Yes—I gave Parkinson the money at the Red Hart, for his services in London—there were two other runners, called Brandon and Withers, employed in London, they had a guinea a week a-piece, for nine or ten weeks—I received the 80l. by a draft drawn by Mr. Hobart in my favor—I have delivered my accounts of the expenditure of the money to Mr. Bygrave since the election—I paid the publicans bills to about the 6th of September.

Have you not received Mr. Ballard's bill, and what time does it go up to ?

It goes to the 13th or 14th, till within a day or two before I went down—it is not paid.

Did you make any objection to this bill because it contained charges for entertaining the voters subsequent to the 6th of September ?

I made no objection to any bill.

Did you promise to pay what remained due on this bill as soon as you received money from Mr. Hobart ?

I did.

Is Robert Barwell's bill under the same circumstances ?

Yes.

Is John Edwards's bill of the same nature ?—Yes.

Was



Was you desired to open houses by Mr. Pye and Mr. Garthorn?

No—I was desired to collect the freemen together in the interest of Mr. Hobart—I wrote to Mr. Pye at Norwich what I had done—I informed him, I had opened houses.

Did you receive any fresh directions?

No—only to do the utmost of my endeavours.

Did you receive any directions from any person to shut your house?—Yes—from Mr. Hobart, about the 26th of August, to shut up the One Tun, thinking it was of no great use—Mr. Hobart expressed to me, that he thought there was no occasion for that house—Mr. Hobart told me this personally, the 26th of August, when he was in London—I broke through that order—the other houses were kept open till within a day or two of our going down—I received no directions about them, it was left to my own conduct.

Withdrew.

JOHN SEAMAN sworn.

I live in Fashion-street—I am a weaver—I am a free-man of Norwich.

Was you applied to at any time, and by whom, to take any part in the Norwich election?

I was applied to by Mr. Leftly.

What did you do in consequence of that application?

The day before he applied to me, I went round to such freemen as I knew, and told them there was a vacancy in parliament, and I should be obliged to them for their vote and interest for Mr. Hobart—they did not promise me their votes at all.

After you saw Leftly, what did you do in consequence of his application?

Mr. Leftly came to my house, and said, I am come to ask you, Seaman, for your vote and interest—I made answer to him that his favors and mine did not agree (as I knew he was for Mr. Wyndham before, and I thought he was for Sir Thomas Beevor now), but nevertheless we will have sixpennyworth together—and we went to the Sun and Tobacco Roll—and when we got into the parlour—Leftly said, “he supposed I was for the same interest as before,” and we shook hands, and he said,

“we

"we were both of one party;" and then he asked me if I knew of a house proper to get our friends together—I told him the house we were in would be handy for me—I waited on the friends I applied to before again, and I asked them to come to Ballard's, and about forty met there that night—they were canvassed by me—I asked them if they would come to the house on behalf of Mr. Hobart.

Some of Sir Thomas's friends came there, as well as Mr. Hobart's?

I had no promises at all—I don't know that the question was put to them about their vote—as they met there, we thought them to be Mr. Hobart's friends—I know Samuel Johnson; I believe he was there the first day of the meeting.

Was any offer made to Samuel Johnson by you?

No—not to him, nor any one else—I don't think Leftly was at the house at that time—I have been there with Leftly—I never heard Leftly make any offer to Samuel Johnson—I never heard him discourse with him at all—I know Tilney—I never heard Mr. Leftly make any offer to Tilney, or any one else.

Did any voters at any time apply to you for money?

They did—I did not myself let them have any money in consequence of that application—I told Mrs. Ballard, if she thought proper to lend them any money (as some of them had no shirts) as they told her they would pay her or any body she thought proper at Norwich, she might—Mrs. Ballard let these voters have money, and placed it to my private account.

Did you know the names of the persons she had lent money to before you went to Norwich?

Yes—she gave me an account of it.

Was you present with Mr. Leftly at Norwich when the London voters were paid?

I was—Mr. Leftly paid them—the money passed through my hands—every one as they were called over was asked what they had borrowed, and what they had was deducted.

I have a constant private account with Mr. Ballard.

Cross examined.

I never was employed before—I employed myself.

Was

Was you ever before employed in this business of electioneering?

I never was employed by any body—I employed myself.

Do you mean to swear, that, when you made application to the votes before Leftly applied to you, they made you no promise?—I have sworn it.

Did any conversation pass between you and them at that time?

None at all—No farther than appointing to meet at such a house, as friends, together.

When you applied to them to vote for Mr. Hobart, did they make you any answer?

Not at all—of any promises—they said they would come down and see us in the evening.

How could you take it that they were Mr. Hobart's friends, as Mr. Hobart's and Sir Thomas Bector's friends were both there?—They proved it.

Do you know that Leftly canvassed at the former election in a different interest to what he did this?—Yes.

Did you ever receive any money from Mr. Leftly, to apply to any particular purpose of this election?—Yes.

State what sum?—I believe it was forty odd pounds.

To what purpose was this sum applied?

I was obliged to have two men with me, to assist me—and my own expences were paid in looking after friends.

Was this money expended in the manner you have mentioned?—I don't know that all of it was.

Was any part of this sum advanced to the London voters before they went down to Norwich?

I don't know that it was.

Will you swear that it was not?

I owed Mr. Ballard about 50*l.* on my own private account.

Question repeated.

I never advanced any money at all—Mrs. Ballard did on my private account.

Will you swear, that any part of the forty guineas, advanced to you by Leftly, was not advanced to London voters before their going to Norwich?—Not by me.

Was any part of it advanced by Leftly to you for the purpose of being paid to the London voters?



Mr. Leftly never asked me what I wanted the money for when I asked for it—I had it by three, four, or five guineas at a time.

Did you ever tell Mr. Leftly what you wanted the money for?—Nothing about it in particular.

Will you swear positively, that you never told Mr. Leftly what you wanted that money for? or that Mr. Leftly never gave it to you, to be advanced to the London voters?—He never did.

Then, if Mr. Leftly has sworn “that he gave you “twenty guineas to be advanced to the London voters, “has he sworn falsely?”

Mr. Leftly never gave me twenty guineas in his life at a time, nor never put that to me.

Then, if Mr. Leftly has sworn, “that he gave Seaman some money, as several of the freemen wanted “to borrow a guinea, and that he let Seaman have “twenty guineas for that,” has he sworn falsely?

He never mentioned to me, when I had money from him, what particular purpose it was for.

Did you ever mention to him the particular purposes it was for?

Sometimes I told him, I wanted to pay the men that were employed by the day.

Were these the only purposes for which you informed him you wanted this money?

Sometimes I told him I had advanced some of my own money, and wanted the money for my own purpose.

Did you tell him of any other purpose?

Sometimes Mrs. Ballard has lent these people money, and I was obliged to pay her again—I paid her in bills which I took on my own account for goods.

Did you ever inform Leftly, that Mrs. Ballard had, at your request, lent money to the London voters?

By promising to pay it?

Question repeated.

Yes—I have.

Did you ever receive from Leftly any money to pay Mrs. Ballard the sum she had so advanced?

I never did—I always paid her in bills.

Question

Question repeated.

Never.

Did you ever, from the time that Leftly first applied to you to act under him in the business of this election, receive from him any sum of money to pay the London voters, or to repay Mrs. Ballard, or any other person, any sum of money actually lent to the London voters at your request?

I have received money from him, but never told him what it was for in particular.

Did you ever receive from Leftly any money to lend to London voters?

Never, to be mentioned to me particularly for what.

Question repeated.

I don't know that ever I did myself in particular—sometimes I sent for the money.

Re-examined.

At the beginning of the contest, did you not owe Mr. Ballard 50 l.—I did.

Did you apply any of the 40 l. which you received from Leftly to pay Ballard?

I don't know whether I did or not.

Did you pay any sums of money to Ballard during this contest?

I don't recollect any sums in particular.

How much did you pay him?

I don't know whether I did not pay 40 l. or 50 l.—I owe Mr. Ballard money now—I owe him 30 l.—I have generally a running account with him.—When I used to send to Leftly, I told the man to go to Mr. Leftly, for I had no money—that was the rule I made—my general rule was, I had no money to pay my journeymen.

Do you, or do you not know, that any voters had applied to Leftly to borrow a guinea a-piece?

I once heard of six of them that did.

Do you know whether Leftly consented or refused to lend them?—He refused it.

Do you know what answer he gave them ?

He told them, he would not do any such thing. — They would not apply to me first of all, because they knew I had not the money to lend them.

Upon Leftly's refusal, what happened then ?

They applied to me—I told them, I could not do it—I had not got it—They said, I could get it of Mr. or Mrs. Ballard—with that I asked Mr. or Mrs. Ballard if they would lend these men a guinea—Mr. or Mrs. Ballard lent one of them a guinea, and that set others upon asking for it, and such as asked for it had it—and it was put to my account.

During this transaction, did any thing at all pass between you and Leftly on that subject ?

Mr. Leftly begged of me not to do any business myself.

Then, did you mention it to Leftly ?

Yes, after the people had had the guineas.

Did Mr. Leftly tell you he would not do it ?

Yes, and advised me not to do it myself.

Did you at that time apply to Leftly for money, and how much ?

No, it was late in the Saturday evening, and I did not apply to him at all.

Did you never apply to Leftly for money, on account of the request made by the freemen to borrow a guinea a-piece ?—Never on that account in particular.

Did you apply to him for money at that time ?—No.

Withdrew.

Mr. Partridge closes the evidence on behalf of the Sitting Member.

Adjourned.



*Veneris, 9<sup>o</sup> die Martii, 1787.*

Mr. Secretary at War, from the Select Committee who were appointed to try and determine the merits of the petition of Sir Thomas Beevor, Baronet; and also, the petition of the several persons whose names are thereunto subscribed, freemen of the city of Norwich and county of the same city, on behalf of themselves and the rest of the electors of the same city and county, severally complaining of an undue election and return for the said city, informed the House, that the said Select Committee have determined,

That the honourable Henry Hobart is not duly elected a citizen, to serve in this present Parliament, for the city of Norwich:

And also, that the said Select Committee have determined,

That Sir Thomas Beevor, Baronet, is not duly elected a citizen, to serve in this present Parliament, for the said city of Norwich:

And also, that the said Select Committee have determined,

That the last election of a citizen, to serve in this present Parliament, for the said city of Norwich, was a void election.

And the said determinations were ordered to be entered in the Journals of this House.

Ordered,

That Mr. Speaker do issue his warrant to the Clerk of the Crown, to make out a new writ for the electing of a citizen, to serve in this present Parliament, for the city of Norwich, in the room of the honourable Henry Hobart, whose election for the said city has been determined to be void.

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